

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 1905.

No. 25

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	417
Leading Articles:—	
Latinisation of Eastern Languages	418
Decay in Middle Russia	418
Japan and Russia	419
The New Cabinet	419
Shanghai Mixed Court Troubles	420
Sir Paul Chater	420
Hongkong Legislative Council	421
Hongkong Sanitary Board	421
The Linchow Affair	421
Supreme Court	421
Canton	424
Macao	425
A Chinese Smuggling Story	425
Proposed Civil Service Cooperative Store	425
Two Typical Decrees	425
Education in Hongkong	425
The Yunnan Railway	426
The Annexation of Brunei	426
A New Hongkong Monopoly	426
Reviews	426
The Nippon Yusen Kaisha	427
The Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	427
Storm Signals in Indo China	427
The Chinese Wife	427
A Curious Rumour	427
Shanghai Tramway	428
Shanghai Mixed Court	428
Impending Election to the Legislative Council	429
Japanese Government Bonds	429
Commercial	429
Shipping	432

BIRTHS.

On 10th December, at Shanghai, the wife of REGINALD N. TRUMAN, of a daughter.

On 13th December, at No. 8 Des Voeux Vill as Peak, to Mr. and Mrs. O. D. THOMSON, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On 28th October, at Kensington, LANCELOT GILES, H. B. M.'s China Consular Service, to MARJORY, only daughter of Dr. R. P. SCOTT, Staff Inspector, Board of Education.

On 21st November, at Wilmsdorf Berlin, K. SCHMIDT of Tsingtao, to ELISABETH ROLOFF of Berlin.

On 2nd December, J. J. WOODRUFF to EDYTH MITCHELL (Shanghai).

DEATHS.

On 7th December, at Shanghai General Hospital, HERMANN TRAUTMANN.

On 12th December at 2.15 p.m., at the Peak Hospital, LUIZ CARLOS DO ROZARIO, son of the late MARCOS C. DO ROZARIO.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of November 10th arrived per the ss. *Ernest Simons*, on Tuesday, the 13th instant; and the English Mail of November 17th arrived, per the ss. *Delta*, on Thursday the 14th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The historic "Board of Rites" has been abolished.

Urga, Kalgan, Ili, and Jehol are to be opened to international trade when the Urga-Kalgan railway is completed.

The s.s. *Glenogle* reached Singapore from Hongkong in record time, four days and thirteen hours. She carried 1,388 coolies.

The return issued by the Observatory shows that on the 11th inst., the difference between the maximum and minimum temperature was 17 degrees.

On Dec. 9th the plague totals stood at 301 cases and 283 deaths. On the same day two Europeans and one Portuguese were recorded to be suffering from diphtheria.

Twenty six Chinamen are in custody at Singapore, charged with being members of a revolutionary society. Their motto was "Down with the Manchus; up with the Mings."

The maximum average temperature in Hongkong during the month of November, according to observations taken at the Observatory, was 73.6, and the minimum 65 deg.

Hongkong imported from America, in 1905, cotton cloths value \$52,368 (gold) mineral oil value \$657,416, and wheat flour value \$1,570,476. The respective figures in 1904 were, \$24,437, \$1,482,359 and \$2,917,811.

Viceroy Shum wants to make a fine military road through the two Kwang, thirty feet wide. He asks permission to use Chau-tung-sang's money for the purpose. Our Canton correspondent sees a prospect of automobile trade!

Two of the alleged Japanese demands which, according to a Chinese paper, have been refused by China are the appointment of a Japanese Viceroy for Liaotung and the timber monopoly in Manchuria.

A very fine new Indo-China steamer for the passenger trade between Shanghai and Tientsin, the *Kooning*, is on her way out, and two new passenger steamers are being built for the same Company to run between Hongkong and Tientsin.

The average minimum of the thermometer at Shanghai in November was 45.51, the average maximum 67.70, and the mean 56.60, against 45.55, 63.10, and 54.32 respectively in November 1904. There were two rainy days in November this year against four in November 1904.

A foreman mason was killed in the Naval Yard on Dec. 12. While superintending coolies engaged in building work, a mishap occurred at the crane, as the result of which the brake failed to act and the boom fell to the ground, crushing the foreman under it. He only lived a few minutes after being released.

The *Japan Daily Mail* says that some 3,000 horses and cattle released by the Russians in South Saghalien are wandering over the country without shelter and cannot hope to survive this winter. The Japanese authorities are making strenuous efforts to save some of them, and it is hoped that about one-third of them will be preserved.

The erudite Mr. Ku Hung-ming, of Wuchang, whose writings have aroused so much comment, has just finished his translation of the Chinese classic known to the world as "The Doctrine of the Mean." He will next render into English the work to which Dr. Legge gave the title of "The Great Learning," and which Mr. Ku considers as nothing but a treatise on the subject of higher education.

At Kau U Fong on December 11th, eight lots of Crown land were offered for sale by public auction by Mr. L. C. Rees, Government Surveyor. Although a large number of Chinese (probably intending purchasers) were present, no bids were offered, the general opinion being that prices were too high.

It is suggested that the "bales of Chinese hair" imported into England, about which such a fuss has been made on the score of anthrax infection, were not queues, but buffalo hair. If this be true, the quaint reflection following is wasted. "To the Far Eastern father of a family it must seem a strange yet solemn freak of fate, that the pigtail of his 'boy,' which he may have often longed to twist and pull, will, perhaps, when he goes home, be visible again upon his daughter's head."

It is reported in the *Nanfengpao* that, in addition to the one-cent copper coins now in current use, two copper coins of a higher denomination will shortly be minted by the Peiyang Mint, viz., a 50-cash and a 100-cash piece. The new coins will resemble the knife-form coins of the Han Dynasty with antique characters and fine mill d edges. This proposal having been sanctioned by H. E. Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai, it is expected that the work of minting the new coins will be started before the close of the present year.

The four-masted steamer *Marwarri*, which was ashore below the Kiutoan Beacon, was floated at midnight on Nov. 29. She steamed on towards Woosung, and after passing the the Kiutoan Lightship at 1 a.m. on Nov. 30th the pilot gave orders to the officer of the watch to make a slight alteration in the course. There was some mistake or misunderstanding, unknown to the pilot, and at about four miles from the Lightship the *Marwarri* went on shore again at full speed, resisting all efforts to pull her off. Her net registered tonnage is 3,623 tons.

The following returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation, and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during November, are certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	\$ 3,664,586	\$ 2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	13,723,957	9,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	68,015	40,000
Total	\$17,456,558	\$11,340,000

Pine-apple growers in the New Territory may be glad of this advice. The Curator of the Botanic Station at Dominica makes the following suggestions with regard to the desirability of shading pine-apples during the fruiting period:—An experiment was made in shading pine-apple plants from the time of flowering until the fruit was ready to be cut. The effect was very marked, the shaded plants being healthier and the fruit more perfect in shape than those unshaded. Probably pine plants would benefit, if grown under light shade from the time of planting, as in Florida, but in any case it is necessary to shade during the fruiting period, if the best results are desired. To shade beds of plants is not an expensive matter. Forked sticks, bamboos, and palm leaves are generally easily obtainable, and are very suitable for the work.

LATINISATION OF FAR EASTERN LANGUAGES.

(Daily Press, 11th December.)

The globetrotter class, which says on seeing the ideographic writing of China and Japan, "However do they learn to distinguish one spidery mark from another?" will not be surprised to hear that efforts are being made in both countries to introduce a system of writing the language with the Roman alphabet. It will to them appear as a simple necessity and a matter of course. There are difficulties in the way, and even objections, at which they would express surprise. We referred to the subject last year, and now note that it is receiving renewed attention in both countries. The Educational Association of China, which held its triennial meeting at Shanghai in May, has reported considerable progress on the continent, and the "Romaji Hirome Kwai," a society working in the island empire for a like object, has within the last few weeks published the first number of a periodical designed to further that object. According to extracts in the *N.-C. Daily News*, Amoy, which claims to be the pioneer in romanisation, reports that there it "is an acknowledged success." Any question as to its usefulness is never raised among Amoy missionaries. In Canton the interest has revived. Hitherto it has never been given a fair trial, but it is now expected that equally good results will follow its use in the south as elsewhere. Even the Chungchias, a tribe of non-Chinese living in the Kueichow province, have had provided for them the privilege of learning to read and write in their own tongue. In Foochow, increasing popularity and influence are the keynote of the report, and this will not be lessened by the fact that there is a monthly newspaper now printed in the now well-known type, and read by an ever-widening circle of "romanists." In the island of Hainan and amongst the Hakkas a beginning has been made, and we learn that the islanders greatly prize the new acquirement as a means of letter-writing. A partial failure in Hangchow is accounted for by the fact that "there seems to have been no very great interest in pushing the romanised" in that important centre. But in Hinghua "the success of the romanised has been phenomenal." It seems that in this district everything combines to favour the new style of learning. "A large and growing church: missionaries awake to the need of helps for the illiterate: a system of romanisation upon which all are agreed: no vernacular books in Chinese character to interfere with the general use of the romanised: and a vigorous prosecution of the work of preparing books and teaching the Chinese to read them." The movement is still in the initiatory stage at Kashing, comparatively new at Kienning and Kienyang, but is in full flood at Ningpo, one of the pioneer stations in the use of the roman character. Mr. B. Fitch writes thence that the popularity of the romanised "has been at an unchanging climax for several years." At Shanghai the success of the past three years has been very marked. Soochow reports no progress. "The number of illiterate Christians is comparatively small," and those who want to read have to learn the character. In Swatow on the other hand, "the romanised is growing in favour with all classes." Taichow introduces a new note: "Quite a number of non-Christians of the scholar class are buying primers, and a new edition is being prepared for their use with Chinese characters added, so that scholars can learn without a teacher." Mr. SOOTHILL of

Wenchow reports: "I consider that the adoption of romanisation in mandarin-speaking districts is likely to result in the unification of the Chinese spoken language and in the production of a national literature easily read everywhere." At present, remarks our contemporary, a magnificent collection of Chinese poetry and prose is easily read nowhere. In Japan, we are told by the *Yokohama Advertiser*, which regards the project unsympathetically, there was a Roman Character Association some years ago which failed. That Association perhaps failed to persevere, but we cannot agree that its efforts were wasted, since we are able now to see the work continuing, and know that in Japan the supply of "Romaji" literature is greater even than in China. Indeed, if there be reason to hope for success in China, we should say there is a reasonable certainty of it in Japan, where the difficulty of the "tones" does not appear. It will be admitted by those familiar with both European and Far Eastern written languages that each achieves the same result, and that one (our own) is the more easily and economically acquired. At the same time, it will not be out of place to indicate the obstacles in the way, consideration of which will help the enthusiastic to avoid the despair born of impatience at slow progress. The chief difficulties are natural prejudices, which we cannot help excusing when we think of the British dislike of any proposal on the lines of change. The much needed spelling reform, for instance, has been almost unanimously rejected because of the sacrifice of literary associations it entails. Anyone reading Professor CHAMBERLAIN's delightful introduction to the study of the ideograph will realise that there is a rare wealth of such associations that must suffer when the Roman letters are adopted. The British are strangely shy of the decimal system, which has more to recommend it and less to fight against than reformed spelling, so that we have no right to criticise any hesitation of the Chinese and Japanese literati. The precious associations of their written characters are on a much higher plane even than ours. We are told that each of those "spidery marks" is essentially a picture representing an idea; our words built of letters represent first a sound. The psychological process in each case has been thus crudely described: in China and Japan the impression telegraphed direct from eye to brain is of things, the evolution of abstractions from concretions having a natural progress: in Europe the impression travels from eye to brain *via* ear, and the process of evoking associations is more arbitrary. That would be more wholly true if the ideograph were what it is supposed to be, and what it undoubtedly once was. But it has to be remembered that ideograms have long been reduced to forms almost as arbitrary as our own. Professor CHAMBERLAIN and the sinologues, native and foreign, are able to trace these arbitrary signs to their pictorial radicals, and to show us how obviously a woman and a house represent domesticity; but the masses who have to learn these characters to get at the instruction recorded by them see as little of this as the English boy sees of the origin of the word "cat." The foundations of expressed knowledge come to us orally, naturally; and it follows that the supplementary form, by writing, should be as simple as possible. Without spelling reform, Romaji or Roman letter writing remains an imperfect system phonetically; but it is in the meantime a system much more easily acquired, costing less in time and effort, than the cumbrous

languages of China and Japan. In the case of Japan, they have already adopted a system which is better than Romaji, and therefore we hardly see what they hope to gain by using Roman characters, which, as at present used to indicate Japanese words, have to be disfigured by all sorts of accents. We refer to their *kana*, which are more accurately phonetic than our alphabet appears at present, in the absence of a uniform usage. Romaji commits them to our confusion as illustrated by "cough" and "plough." Their own *kana* offer what our alphabet ought to, but does not: one symbol one sound. That is a much more reasonable objection to Romaji than the one which dwells on the fact that there are no less than ninety-two different characters pronounced *ko*, with sixteen compounds *ko sho*, and twenty-four compounds *ko shi*. Context has to be relied upon in speech, so it would be no hardship to rob the Japanese scholar of the alleged 132 variations in writing that sound, the task of learning which must be stupendous. Sir ISAAC PITMAN had to face that difficulty with words like "all, awl, haul, whole, hole." In China the difficulties are enormous. We have tried to produce the tones in both Roman letters and in phonography, and failed of course. It seems impertinent to offer Romanised writing to China while we are at present undecided whether the Chinese sound-name of a Hongkong suburb is best represented by "Kowloon" or "Kaulun"; and we would almost as soon learn the ideograph itself as puzzle out the phonetic significance of compositions like "hsien-ch'en-shueh." But these are difficulties to be surmounted, not despaired over; and the success of the movement will mean a wonderful spread of culture when it does away with the far more formidable difficulties of ideography. The reformers do not deserve, at any rate, that we should discourage their gallant enterprise.

DECAY IN MIDDLE RUSSIA.

(Daily Press, 12th December.)

Some three years ago, speaking of the appointment of Admiral ALEXIEFF to what was practically the Satrapy of Eastern Siberia—he being free from accountability to the Government of Russia, and answerable only to the Tsar in person—we drew a comparison with the decay of the ancient Persian regime owing in a great measure to the want of efficient control over the distant satrapies; and ventured on the forecast that the long line of empire, stretching, as it did, from the Baltic to the Japan Sea, was already overweighted at the extremities, and that the new appointment of a practically irresponsible chief over the eastern extremity would in time lead to the fracture of the slender connecting rod between St. Petersburg and Vladivostock. We pointed to the glaring manner in which the military commanders in Central Asia had openly contravened the plainest orders of the responsible Government at home; and had in consequence plunged the Empire in a series of costly and unproductive wars which had already seriously hampered the financial stability of the State; and owing to the extent of the new territory overrun, as well as to the practical dissolution of the bonds of discipline, were threatening its very existence. Already the action of Admiral ALEXIEFF was leading up to still further encroachments, and towards this the conduct of the Tsar himself, then under the influence of the dangerous adventurer BESOBRAOFF, was directly tending. The war, even then impending, however success-

ful it might be in its immediate effects, could have but one eventual result; and that was the still further disintegration of an empire whose solidarity was already dangerously affected by the outgrowth of unassimilated accretions on every side.

How this system has affected the well-being of Russia we may judge from some statistics given before the late war by a not unfriendly critic, WOLF VON SCHIEBRAND. Speaking of the advancing impoverishment of the fertile lands in European Russia, he says:—"Three main reasons for it are cited: the lack of all earnings save by agricultural labour; the enforced idleness during one half of the year; and the excessive rate of taxation, taking away from this district in taxes much more than given back by the state in one form or other. This last point is undeniable. In the Central district an annual average of 106.4 roubles is taken from the peasantry in taxes, and only 42.8 millions is returned in improvements, &c. For the East the taxes were 80 millions, and the returns 59.2 millions. But in the South we find similar figures, namely, 122.6 millions taken out, and only 64.8 millions returned." How the political landscape assumes an entirely different aspect as seen from the West or the East of the Urals is curiously shown in a recently published book by an Englishman who visited the Altai, partly on business, partly to enjoy the mountain climbing, in the winter of 1903. What VON SCHIEBRAND, looking from Central Russia, considered one of the potent reasons of the decay of Russia, Mr. TURNER, the English writer referred to, looked upon as an example of political wisdom. He tells us:—"The impartial reader will perceive that the paternal Russian Government, at whose methods in our insular complacency we are so apt to smile, has already effected much for the peasantry, and will effect more. As a mere matter of fact it has done more for Siberia than our own enlightened Government has done for the sister island, with her glorious agricultural possibilities." "Russia has wisely selected a practical and beneficial method of education and one admirably suited to the necessities of the case. She is gradually introducing the Siberian peasant to the means of obtaining a better livelihood, and so achieving all and more than our western methods have accomplished in the case, say, of the half-educated, intellectually misdirected products of our Board School system. These subsidised co-operative dairies manufacture an article of very uniform quality, while the quantity fluctuates between 15 and 20 cwts. per week, representing the amount of cream supplied by from five to ten skimming stations." We do not belong to that extreme wing of the free trade fuddists who would scent a crime in thus fostering an infant industry; and the picture drawn is a very pretty and instructive one. It, however, has a reverse: VON SCHIEBRAND shall be our guide again. Describing the condition of the peasantry in Central Russia he draws a fearful picture. Encouraged by the general management of the liquor monopoly in the hands of his Government, almost the whole of the miserable earnings he can call his own after paying his taxes are spent on vodka. "To get an idea of this it is but necessary to remark that the cost per head to the peasant for the liquor that he consumes means an annual outlay of three roubles sixty five kopeks, and that the Government takes of this sum, in the form of taxes, two roubles twenty-five kopeks. Therefore while the peasant spends over one tenth of the total earnings of himself and family on liquor, the Govern-

ment makes him pay for it about 130 per cent. more than it costs. NOVIKOFF's report, to which repeated reference has been made, describes graphically the utter desolation and misery of the average peasant's family. Reading his pages it seems, indeed, a miracle how one hundred millions of human beings, living under a form of Christianity, and a Government which prides itself on the term "paternal" can have patiently borne for so many years such frightful conditions without a murmur. In the 'Black-earth belt' mortality has increased at a frightful rate, and the population figure remains stationary. "It is not astonishing that the Russian peasantry in the 'Black earth band' of late are emigrating both to Siberia and to the border provinces. By tens of thousands they annually leave their villages to settle on virgin land in Western Siberia; and yet the provinces they leave were endowed by nature with extremely fertile soil, and the density of population, even in these central provinces, is to-day less than half that of Germany. But the peasant in the Centre is steadily degenerating. The annual recruiting for the army shows that plainly. The number of men found unfit for military service is large, and constantly increasing. Both in deficient width of chest and in lesser height he forms a striking contrast with the Russian living under more propitious conditions."

The reason of this is not far to seek, and coincides with the recent mania for territorial expansion, but territorial expansion, even by Russia, costs money, and the money has to be raised by foreign loans. So long as the advance goes on, the officials in the East care little for the burdens of the country, and the feeble avaricious Government in Europe dare not, even if it wished, exercise any control or restrain its eastern Satraps. So St. Petersburg has to find the coin, and the difficulty has been gradually, year by year, increasing. Unfortunately Russia has few resources, and the wretched peasant in the once productive "Black soil belt" finds all the burden thrown on his already overweighted shoulders, while his more fortunate fellow in Siberia, where wasteful agriculture has not as yet destroyed the productiveness of the land, is momentarily caressed, till he in turn has to pay toll for some new advance. A few statistics will show how real is the decay. This rests on unquestionable authority. The Moscow *Vyedomosti* in 1898 contained a full report, based entirely upon official sources, of the rapidly proceeding exhaustion of the soil in the huge Volga district, a couple of decades previously virgin soil, but already, under the "robber system" of the Russian farmer, become deficient in nutritive elements. From 1883 to 1892 the average yield of winter wheat had fallen from 31 pood per dessyatine to 26.6; spring wheat from 34.7 to 25.5; rye from 41.7 to 30.4, and all others in proportion; or an average decrease in the productions of the soil of no less than 30 per cent; and the annual decrease is still continuous. Nor, and herein lies, perhaps, the most disheartening portion of the decrease, is it to be altogether attributed to the defects of the peasant himself: the mistaken policy of the Government which, in order to stimulate the most readily saleable export—wheat—has practically compelled the farmer to confine himself to the production of this one crop, year in year out. The Russian is by no means so great a fool as many of his most fervid admirers would make out. He does not, at all events, present his inquisitive visitors with a ROENTGEN apparatus to view the skeleton within; and the man who only sees one side of the

country is in no position to judge of the conditions prevailing in the great centre, but seldom visited by the stranger. This is, of course, the reason why no two accounts of the present position of the land can be found to agree; but a policy of vacillation tempered by outbursts of savage repression has never yet in history saved a nation from extinction.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

(Daily Press, 13th December.)

If the *Daily Telegraph* be well informed in a number arriving by yesterday's mail, Russia is wilfully joining the ranks of those who manufacture their own troubles. Japan's status as a Power of the first magnitude has now been recognised by England, America, Germany, and France; and even the Tsar in a recent rescript thought it expedient to refer to Japan as great and mighty. Yet Russia is balking at Japan's desire to exchange representatives of ambassadorial rank. Count WITTE informed his Government from Portsmouth that the future good relations of Japan and Russia would be fostered if Russia fell into line with the other Powers in the matter of paying this deserved compliment. "But in St. Petersburg," says the *Daily Telegraph*, "the matter was regarded from a different point of view," from we cannot help adding, a pettish, childish point of view. Russia elected to be represented at Tokyo by "a mere minister," and sent for M. BEXHMETIEFF, the Minister at Sofia; and conveyed this insulting intimation via France. There was only one answer, and this humiliation she thereby drew upon herself. Russia "was courteously informed, through the same channels (French), that Japan would prefer, for the time being, to send a mere Chargé d'Affaires to St. Petersburg, and to have a Russian representative of like rank in Tokyo." This petty exhibition by Russia, in view of the attitude of the other Powers, could not possibly have the effect intended. The dignified retort of Japan puts Russia in the position of the small Power—which is as it should be, after such a small-minded bit of pique. In any case, it does not augur well for the future amicable relations that have been looked for and talked of. It is, however, probable that Russia will yet find it expedient to yield ungracefully what she would have done better to do gracefully.

THE NEW CABINET.

(Daily Press 13th December.)

We believe the composition of the new British Cabinet, which we were able to announce in our mid-day Shipping Extra on Monday, will command a feeling of greater confidence in the stability of a Liberal Administration than the public generally were led to expect from previous speculations on the subject. It is ten years since the collapse of the last Liberal Administration, but many members of previous Liberal Cabinets figure in the new Cabinet which, moreover, is strengthened by the inclusion of other names which will command world-wide confidence and respect. That Sir EDWARD GREY would be the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was a foregone conclusion. In the last Liberal Administration Sir EDWARD was Under Secretary first to Lord ROSEBERRY and afterwards to the Earl of KIMBERLEY. While the Liberals have sat in the cold shades of opposition no one among them has commanded a more respectful hearing on questions of foreign policy than Sir EDWARD GREY. His public speeches have

shown him to be in general agreement with Lord LANSDOWNE's policy, and we anticipate, therefore, no violent disturbance of the country's relations with Foreign Powers. Notwithstanding that the Liberal Party generally has viewed with some disfavour the agreement to secure the assistance of Japan in the defence of India, both Sir HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN and Sir EDWARD GREY have publicly declared that a Liberal Government would loyally carry out the Anglo-Japanese alliance as they unpreservedly approve the treaty so far as it is intended to maintain the integrity of China. Equal confidence will be felt in the Earl of ELGIN and KINCARDINE (formerly Viceroy of India) as Colonial Secretary, but the appointment, especially at the present time, of a notorious "little Englander" like Mr. JOHN MORLEY as Secretary of State for India, will doubtless appeal to many as somewhat humorous. We fear it is not improbable that this bodes further trouble in India, for we doubt if Mr. JOHN MORLEY will be found so complaisant towards Lord KITCHENER's plans as his predecessor has been. As to the other appointments in the Cabinet there is little that need be said. The appointment to office of Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, the firebrand of the Party, was generally anticipated, and perhaps no safer place for this turbulent spirit could be found than the Board of Trade. The inclusion of Mr. JOHN BURNS in the Cabinet is the first occasion on which a Labour Member has been so honoured, but few who have watched the career of Mr. BURNS as a member of the London County Council and a member of the Imperial Parliament will cavil at the selection. Neither Mr. LLOYD GEORGE nor Mr. JOHN BURNS have held office of any kind in previous administrations, nor have Mr. HALDANE, Mr. BIRRELL and Captain SINCLAIR. It is, to say the least, unusual to find so many men in a new Cabinet who have not qualified by service as Parliamentary Under Secretaries. The prolonged exclusion of the Liberal Party from power affords the explanation, no doubt, for it will generally be admitted that the new ministers are men of commanding ability in the ranks of the Liberal Party.

SHANGHAI MIXED COURT TROUBLES.

(Daily Press, 14th December.)

We presume that most, if not all, of our readers know what is meant by the Shanghai Mixed Court, a tribunal where a sort of justice is dispensed by a Chinese magistrate assisted by a European. The European is supposed to participate in the judgments pronounced; and the object of his presence is, of course, to prevent as far as possible those varieties of native judiciary methods which are repugnant to the more tender heart of the Occidental. The mixture of methods has arisen from the anomalous conditions prevailing owing to the omission to make Shanghai really and truly a foreign settlement. It is still Chinese territory, nominally, and the Chinese residents are Chinese subjects, subject to Chinese jurisdiction. But Shanghai could not countenance in its very midst the old notorious customs of Chinese yamens. Augmented apparently by the policy of an anti-foreign TAOTAI, the jealousy and mistrust of the rival elements at the Mixed Court have for a long time been very pronounced. The Europeans interfered in the matter of the lock-ups at the Mixed Court, and succeeded in having the typical Chinese dens substituted by

apartments more consistent with the foreign treatment of the innocent or unconvicted accused. They also found it necessary to take steps to see that judgments pronounced by the mixed tribunal were not secretly revoked or nullified by an informal native tribunal. Particularly in the treatment of female prisoners were the Chinese officials averse to reform; and it is evident that the more or less veiled hostility and resentment on this head came to a crisis on the 8th instant, as set forth in the startling report which we reproduce from a copy of the *N. C. Daily News* received last evening. In this case it will be noted that the girls in question were not prisoners, not accused, but victims of a cruel feature of Chinese society. They also appear to have been of tender years. Under these circumstances, we conceive that not even the most bigotted foreign upholder of the rights of the Chinese will sympathise with the side which wished to thrust these children (infinitely more sinned against than sinning) into the cells at the Mixed Court, pending the adjourned hearing. The Chinese officials, notably the VICEROY at Nanking, the TAOTAI at Shanghai, and their creatures, insist that this Court is a Chinese Court. The Europeans insist that it is not and are determined to protect the Chinese who take refuge in the Settlement from the treatment to which they are exposed outside. The Chinese point of view may be described as patriotic; it is certainly anti-foreign and Chauvinistic in its spirit; and in its results, if successfully established, would be disastrous to Chinese as well as to the settlement. The European attitude is usually described as purely humane in character, but there is no doubt a good deal of policy about it. But whatever criticism one side may advance against the other, it is certain that accomplished facts must be faced. Shanghai is a place of foreign residence, the land in foreign ownership, and must now, for all time, be administered according to foreign ideas. There must be no "squeeze" pidjin or persecution there; and since the Chinese who are so eager to re-assert their rights are of the sort who cling hardest to old and bad customs; they must be rigorously put into their place. We can readily believe that our contemporary expresses the position appropriately in saying that "the wave of exaltation that has come over the Chinese since Japan so easily defeated the big Power which has fascinated China for years, as the python does the rabbit, must be checked before it becomes dangerous."

SIR PAUL CHATER.

(Daily Press, 15th December.)

While the public will cordially approve the motive which has prompted Sir PAUL CHATER after nineteen years' service to retire from the representation of the Justices of the Peace on the Legislative Council—that is to say, the desire not to monopolise a position which many other prominent men in the Colony are well qualified to occupy—there will nevertheless be a wide-spread feeling of regret if the step Sir PAUL CHATER has taken involves his total separation from the governing body of the Colony. Sir PAUL CHATER has lived in the Colony upwards of forty years and everybody is well aware how intimately and how conspicuously he has been identified with the history and progress of the Colony which we are proud to know is now "the first shipping port in the world." It has been suggested that notwithstanding his retirement from the representation of the Justices, it would be a gracious recognition

of the value of Sir PAUL CHATER's services to the Colony if His Excellency the GOVERNOR still retained him as a member of his Executive Council. We believe there is no precedent in the Colony for the retention in the Executive Council of an unofficial member who has ceased to sit as a representative member in the Legislative Council. To such a departure from custom, however, we believe there is no official bar; at least, there is, so far as we are aware, no hard-and-fast rule that the two unofficial seats on the Executive Council must be occupied by members of the Legislative Council. It may be remembered that unofficial members were first appointed to the Executive Council about ten years ago as the result of a Petition addressed to the House of Commons praying for the amendment of the Constitution of the Colony. Inasmuch as the Colonial Government discharges municipal duties it was recognised by the Rt. Hon. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, then the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that "on that account representatives of the citizens may fairly be given a place on the Executive." The Colonial Secretary went on to say:—

I therefore propose that the Executive Council shall in future include two unofficial members to be selected at the discretion of the Governor. It is obviously desirable that they should, as a rule, be chosen from among the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, and the choice should, and no doubt will be, inspired by considerations of personal merit, and have no reference to the particular class or race to which the persons chosen belong.

We may conclude from this extract that the unofficial seats in the Executive Council need not necessarily be occupied by unofficial members of the Legislative Council. In framing the proposal as he did it is not improbable that the object Mr. CHAMBERLAIN had in view was to limit to some extent the exercise of a personal preference on the part of the Governor of the Colony for the time being, and to insure that the gentlemen chosen to occupy those seats should enjoy such a measure of confidence on the part of the community as is expressed in an election to the Legislative Council either by the Justices of the Peace or the Chamber of Commerce. If such were the considerations which dictated Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's proposal, there are sound reasons for creating an exception to the rule of selection in the case of Sir PAUL CHATER. We have not the least doubt that had Sir PAUL seen fit to offer himself for re-election by the Justices he would be returned to the Legislative Council with the same unanimity that has characterised his election on previous occasions; and if moreover the choice of a member of the Executive Council be inspired by considerations of personal merit, no man in the Colony is better entitled to a seat on that ground than Sir PAUL CHATER. In saying this we are sure we are giving expression to an opinion which will be universally endorsed in the Colony. We have written on the assumption that Sir PAUL CHATER's retirement from the representation of the Justices would be regarded both by HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR and by Sir PAUL CHATER himself as involving his retirement from the Executive Council, since the one appointment no doubt originally led to the other. But if Sir PAUL is willing to serve the Colony as an unofficial member of the Executive Council, HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR may rest assured that no appointment could give greater satisfaction to the community; for while it would be appreciated

as well-deserved recognition of long and valuable public service, the community would have the advantage of representation in the Executive Council by one of its oldest and most widely esteemed residents and one moreover whose extensive interests are intimately identified with the past, present and future prosperity of the port.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

IMPENDING ELECTION.

As we announced on Dec. 14th there are three candidates for the position as representative of the Justices of the Peace in the Legislative Council which the Hon. Sir Paul Chater vacates at the end of this year. The third candidate, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., was proposed by the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart and seconded by Mr. G. W. F. Playfair. So far, there is little probability of any other gentleman coming forward to appeal to the electorate of non-official Justices of the Peace (the official Justices do not take part in the election) and indications point to a fairly even contest, as each candidate possesses merits which will be considered good qualifications for the office.

Both Mr. Hewett and Mr. Pollock have been candidates before, Mr. Slade standing for the position for the first time. The last named gentleman, apart from his own personality, will command some influence as the nominee of the retiring member. Mr. Slade is essentially a commercial man. He is the head of the firm of Gillman and Co. which has grown up with the colony, and as he has been resident here now for about 16 years he has a thorough knowledge of the requirements of the community. His interests and the interests of the firm are in his own words "the interests of the Colony," and he asserts he has more at stake here than either of the other two candidates. He is already in the service of the public, having been a member of the Sanitary Board for about eight months.

Mr. Pollock, on the other hand, can urge the strong claim of having experience in the Legislative Council. For a little less than four years he was acting Attorney-General and for about nine months he sat as an unofficial member representing the Chamber of Commerce during the absence from the Colony of the Hon. Mr. R. Shewan in 1902-03. The knowledge then acquired, coupled with his professional training, are excellent qualifications for the position. We understand that this gentleman has expressed the opinion that it is contrary to the public interest that electors should pledge themselves definitely to vote for any particular candidate previous to the election itself inasmuch as no judgment ought to be formed by them until they have had full opportunity of considering the views and qualifications of the candidates who offer themselves for election.

Mr. Hewett is another gentleman whose fitness for the office will be recognised by many electors. With an experience of the Far East extending to a quarter of a century, an intimate knowledge of the Colony and its needs, a practical training in governmental work acquired on the Shanghai Municipal Council (especially during the troublous period of the Boxer rising when he was Chairman), his position as superintendent of the P. & O. Steamship Coy. where the business of the Colony as a shipping port is his business and a devotion to public service. Mr. Hewett is undoubtedly a strong candidate. He is not here temporarily but is in the Colony for the remainder of his career, a fact which should be taken as answer by those who regard him somewhat as "a bird of passage." Not only is he connected with the Chamber of Commerce, of which he has been Chairman now for nearly three years, but he has been a member of the Sanitary Board, has been on the Committee of several public schools and has had to consider many questions outside of his own business. He has been a candidate on two previous occasions—once as the representative of the Justices of the Peace and once as the representative of the Chamber of Commerce. On the latter occasion his opponent was Mr. Pollock.

There will be about 100 non-official Justices of the Peace in the colony at the time of the election, next Thursday at the City Hill.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 12th December at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. F. Clark (president) presided, and there were also present: Dr. W. W. Pearse, M.O.H., Mr. F. J. Badeley, Mr. H. W. Slade, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. A. Rumjahn and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

APPLICATIONS.

A number of unimportant applications were dealt with on their merits.

WATER ANALYSIS.

The analyses of samples of water from the public supplies by Mr. Frank Brown, Government analyst, show that these are still uncontaminated.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics for the week ending 18th November, at a death rate of 1,000 per annum, show a percentage of 17.7 as against 19.8 for the corresponding week of last year. This percentage does not include army and navy fatalities.

LIMEWASHING.

During the week ended 5th instant 3,765 houses were limewashed in the Central, and 3,753 in the Western district.

RAT RETURN.

During the week ending on the 2nd instant 609 rats were caught of which 20 were infected. Of the 570 caught during the following week, 22 were found to be infected.

THE LINCHOW AFFAIR.

RETURN OF THE COMMISSION.

THE DISPUTED LAND.

[FROM OUR CANTON CORRESPONDENT.]

The Commissioners returned to Canton from Linchow on Dec. 12 at about one o'clock. Three men concerned in the murder, and who had confessed their guilt, were beheaded. Nineteen others were sentenced to different terms of imprisonment, ranging from one to five years. On the whole, it is reported that the Commissioners are satisfied with the results of the investigation. The boycott, it appears, was not the cause of the trouble. Satisfactory evidence has also been given that the soldiery were not in fault. The missionaries having fled to the hills, their hiding place was found too late; the majority of the fugitives were already killed when the soldiers learned where they were. The American Consul General pointed out that a riot occurred last year on account of the Po Pui lottery, and added that the Linchow people were easily excited. He also said that there were many members of the Triad Society in Linchow. Wên Tsung-Yao gave full explanations regarding these remarks. The question about the vacant piece of land near the temple and opposite the hospital was also raised. It appears this land had been used from time immemorial for the annual Ta-chu festival. Last year Dr. Machle notified the gentry that he had bought the ground and told them to erect their matchsheds elsewhere. The gentry complied with the doctor's request. The sheds were erected on a piece of land further down. The people not believing, however, that the land in question had been really bought, asked Dr. Machle to produce his title deeds; but the doctor was unable to do so.

The gentry and people of Linchow professed to be satisfied with the investigation, and gave the Commissioners a popular send off.

I am preparing translations for you of three proclamations by Wên Tsung-yao.

As the result of a boiler explosion on board the German steamer *Wongkoi* on Dec. 11 the second and third engineers were severely scalded. The former, Gerhardt Christiansen, has since succumbed to his injuries, while the latter lies in hospital in a critical condition. The steamer resumed her journey to Bangkok yesterday.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 11th December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A QUESTION OF COSTS.

In the case in which the Club Lusitano sued J. M. Xavier to recover the sum of \$30, the summons had been previously withdrawn, but his Lordship had to decide as to costs.

Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) represented the defendant.

His Lordship—Well, Mr. Goldring, haven't you settled up this serious question of costs?

Mr. Goldring—No, my Lord, we have not had much opportunity owing to the holiday. The question is whether they should pay our costs, the money having been paid by a third party without the knowledge of the defendant.

His Lordship—What is the trouble behind this?

Mr. Grist—So far as I can see this is simply an action brought for the amount of refreshments supplied, and the subscription due by a member to the Club. When chits are signed by a man he ought to meet them. Altogether, there was an amount of \$42 owing, and that has been paid. So far as I am concerned, the matter is at an end. With regard to costs, I am prepared to waive them.

His Lordship (to Mr. Goldring)—I cannot do anything for you now.

Mr. Goldring—Won't my client be entitled to his costs?

His Lordship—Oh, no. I won't give either of you costs. Drop the whole thing; it seems to me that it is a petty affair. I don't know whether any ill-feeling or bad blood exists between the parties, but there must be some trouble.

Mr. Grist—Even if there is, we should keep it out of this case.

His Lordship—Very well. By consent the case is withdrawn. I think that is best, as I am certain there is something behind it, and you would probably be washing dirty linen before you had done.

A CROSS-ACTION.

The case was continued in which Ching Kwai Wan, trader, claimed from Leung Wai Ting, alias Chin Chin Tong, the sum of \$9, being balance due on account of medicine pills sold and delivered.

In the cross-action the previous defendant claimed from the plaintiff the sum of \$50, money lent.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro represented the plaintiff in the first action and the defendant in the second, while Mr. R. A. Harding appeared for the defendant in the first and the plaintiff in the second.

Mr. Almada closed his case on the previous day.

In opening his, Mr. Harding said there were two points to consider. The first was, whether there was, previous to July, a transaction between the two parties leaving a balance due for which the document he was suing on was given. Secondly whether the defendant supplied the pills referred to and whether the document the plaintiff put in was in payment on account of pills. The plaintiff, a merchant carrying on business in Canton, was a partner in the Nam Loong Hing and sole proprietor of the Tang Kee with a capital of \$20,000. He dealt in general merchandise, and had been in the habit of sending goods to Hongkong for sale. He was also the custodian of the funds of his native village, and in January of this year a farmer from that village told him it was necessary to arm against robbers and asked him to arrange for the supply of rifles. As he had no means of obtaining these he went to see a brother-in-law of the defendant's, Ho Kin San, who carried on business in Canton. Ho informed him that the defendant carried on business in Hongkong, and said that he could arrange with him for the supply of the rifles. Accordingly Ho Kin San, the farmer and the plaintiff visited Hongkong about the end of the year and went to see the defendant at the office of the Fuk Sing. The

defendant said he could supply the rifles, but would require a deposit of \$200. On the 26th January he paid the deposit and returned to Canton. In March 1905 the rifles had not been delivered, so he returned to Hongkong to see the defendant, who then said he could not deliver them. He applied for the return of the \$200 deposit, but the defendant stated that he had only retained \$100, and that his brother-in-law had the other \$100. The plaintiff was advised to obtain the \$100 in the possession of Ho Kin San, and then return and the defendant would hand over the other \$100. He obtained the money from Ho, and on again applying to the defendant received \$50, leaving a balance due of \$50. Subsequently the plaintiff again visited Hongkong and went to the defendant's shop. There he was threatened with arrest for theft and brought this action.

His Lordship—Who is the rebel?

Mr. Almada—My friend's client.

His Lordship—Someone is, I can see.

Continuing, Mr. Harding said his client did not deal in pills. He had never ordered those in question, and never had them.

The case was adjourned.

Tuesday, 12th December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR RENT.

The Robinson Piano Company sued H. Price, lately carrying on business as a wine and spirit merchant at 12 Queen's Road Central under the style of H. Price and Co., to recover the sum of \$375, being for one month's rent from the 9th October to the 9th November, 1905, of the eastern part of the ground floor of Connaught House.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, represented the defendant.

Mr. Slade stated the claim was for rent in respect of a portion of the premises formerly occupied by the Robinson Piano Co. which were let to the defendant. Practically the whole case bore on the letters and documents which passed between the parties.

Counsel here proceeded to cite passages from the letters in question, which dealt with the arrangement arrived at regarding the lease of the premises, partitioning of same, etc.

W. J. Robinson deposed to being managing director of the Robinson Piano Co., and the premises in question were formerly in his occupation under lease from Mr. Fung Wa Chun. His lease was signed after the negotiations with Mr. Price. \$325 rent for half the premises was a fair sum.

Cross-examined—Witness could not remember whether he told his solicitors to put the 1st November in the lease. He first heard from the Land Co. that he could not get into his new premises until after the 1st November, after his return from America. He consulted his solicitors on this, and believed they had communicated with Mr. Price's solicitors. When he returned to the colony he endeavoured to get a new clause inserted in the lease to the effect that the demolition of the brick wall should be carried out at Mr. Price's expense.

Mr. Pollock submitted that the plaintiffs had not made out a case at all. As his Lordship would see, they were suing on a writ of summons—now amended—for the rent of the premises for one month from the 10th October to the 9th November. The premises were described correctly in the writ as being the eastern half of the ground floor of Connaught House; that was to say that the plaintiffs were suing for part of premises. The draft lease was before his Lordship, and he would see that there was no variation in that, although, as his friend mentioned, there was a dispute as to which side of the premises should be occupied. As mentioned in the first letter it was the intention of the parties, clearly expressed on the face of the lease, that the tenure of the whole premises should commence from 1st November, 1905. His Lordship would see, by referring to the draft lease, that the tenure contemplated was an entire and undivisible tenure of the whole

premises at a rate of \$750 a month. A great deal had been made by his learned friend with reference to the initial letters between the parties, and there was no doubt that originally the negotiations between the plaintiff and the defendant were based upon the assumption that the defendant would go into possession of a portion of the premises as soon as a certain partition was erected. All these arrangements were entirely superseded in the month of May of this year. He would refer his Lordship to a letter of the 10th May wherein was a distinct reference to all previous correspondence which had taken place between the parties. He submitted that that letter from the Robinson Piano Company, which was followed only six days afterwards by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist's, enclosing a draft lease, was as absolutely clear and conclusive as anything could be that the plaintiff then took up the stand, no matter what the previous negotiations might have been, that the lease of the whole premises in question was to begin from the 1st November. He did not dispute that there was another idea originally, but the Robinson Piano Co. said emphatically that the lease was to commence from that day, and obviously instructed their solicitors to the same effect. From the 10th May onwards the position which the plaintiff took up was that the lease of the whole premises was to be from the 1st November; and notwithstanding that counsel for the plaintiff attempted to raise a somewhat ingenious argument on Mr. Stephens' letter of the 30th June regarding the partitioning off; if his Lordship would refer to the same gentleman's letter of the 5th July, he would find it quite clear that it was not as his friend suggested.

His Lordship—What do you suggest he intended?

Mr. Pollock—He suggested that it referred to the previous arrangement with regard to the partition.

In conclusion Mr. Pollock said that the only question left over until Mr. Robinson's return to the Colony was the question with reference to the matter of a partition.

His Lordship reserved judgment.

Wednesday, 13th December.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE) and MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

TAM MAN SAM v. TAM YAU AND CHEUNG. SAN PANG.

This was a notice of motion to vary an order made in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction on November 4th. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Stevenson) appeared for the appellants, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis) appeared for the respondents.

In delivering the judgment of the full court his Honour the Chief Justice said:—The defendants obtained judgment in summary jurisdiction in an action brought to recover \$500 as return of a certain deposit, and \$500 damages. The plaintiff applied to the Full Court for leave to appeal in respect of that part of the judgment only which related to the return of the deposit. This application was made *ex parte*: the plaintiff at the same time applied for the stay of execution. The defendants afterwards moved *ex parte* to vary the order, and obtained a rule to show cause. This was argued before the Full Court; the Full Court has, therefore, sat in this matter on three separate occasions. We have some doubt whether the application for such should have been made *ex parte*, as it is obviously a question on which the respondents may have something to say. As, however, the respondents have not acquiesced in the order, any apparent irregularity (supposing it to be such) can be looked upon as waived, and the motion before us may be taken as if the appellant had obtained a rule to show cause, and the argument on the motion to vary the order is the argument on the rule. We think that, in future, in order to save costs and multiplicity of motions, that notice should be given to the other side if the party desiring leave to appeal intends to apply for a stay of execution. It will then be open for the opposite party to appear on the motion

to argue this question of stay, if he is so advised. He will, of course, not be heard on the motion for leave to appeal. Dealing, now, with the motion before us, the respondents relied on the practice under O. 58, R. 16, and cited several cases which seem to establish the rule that execution as to costs will not be stayed unless the respondents' solicitors decline to give an undertaking to refund any costs subsequently found due to the appellant in the event of his succeeding. It does not seem necessary to examine the cases at any length in order to ascertain whether this is the usual rule, or whether the Court has a discretion as to acting on it or not, because we are of opinion that the rules which govern the interpretation of that order have no application to the present case. The principles which govern stay of execution for costs, where the appeal is of right, do not of necessity apply where leave to appeal is to be obtained. In such a case the Court has to go, to a certain extent, into the merits of the case, and requires a *prima facie* case to be established that there is at least a possibility of the judgment being reversed. This being so, the right which the successful party in the Court below has to retain the costs he is entitled to under the judgment, cannot be put so high as in the case where the unsuccessful party avails himself of his right to appeal. We think that whatever the exact rule as to the solicitors undertaking may be, it is based on the fact that *prima facie* the judgment of the court below is right. There the *prima facie* is the other way, and it therefore seems more reasonable that the stay of execution as to costs should be absolutely on the discretion of the Court. I agree that in ordinary cases where only part of the judgment is appealed from, the stay would only be as to so much of the costs as relate to that part of the judgment, but this must be included in the discretion which the Court is called upon to exercise. My learned brother thought, and intended to make such order; and on the hearing of the respondents *ex parte* application I also thought that this should have been the order. But then, as I expressly stated at the time, I was under the impression that the costs of the two issues could be divided. Now, when the case is threshed out by both sides, it appears that the costs are incapable of division, except in regard to a very minute sum, whether they will go to the appellant if he succeeds is another matter to be determined on the hearing of the appeal. But as there is a possibility that he may get them, the proper order is that there should be a stay of execution as to costs. We think the justice of the case requires that the costs of this application be costs in the cause.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

APPLICATION FOR JUDGMENT.

In the case in which the Foo Ching firm claimed from Chan Lai Nung, otherwise Chan Yuk Chuang, the sum of \$5,000 for money advanced, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. Harding (of Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding) applied for judgment.

Mr. Pollock said the application was made under the provisions of the code relating to foreign attachment. A writ of foreign attachment against the defendant's property was issued on the 27th of last month, and that had to be advertised under the provisions of section 467 of the code. His Lordship would find an affidavit on the file by Mr. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding, the solicitors for the plaintiff, stating that advertisements had appeared twice in the *Government Gazette* and another local paper. An application was made to his Lordship yesterday in Chambers under section 469 for leave for the plaintiffs to proceed to establish their claim, and the order was on the file.

His Lordship—There should be some statement that attempts have been made quite recently to find the defendant.

Mr. Pollock—I think that will appear from the evidence. Perhaps it would be useful if your Lordship gave a ruling under section 469 of the Code; you will remember that the solicitor appearing for the plaintiffs made an application yesterday for leave for the

plaintiffs to proceed to establish their claim. I must confess that it seems to me that that application was unnecessary, section 469 says that after the issue of a writ the plaintiff may forthwith file his statement of claim and proceed to establish his claim.

His Lordship—Is your point that there should be no application in chambers?

Mr. Pollock—Yes.

His Lordship—If that could be eliminated it would save costs. What is the rule with regard to proceeding *ex parte* in an ordinary action?

Mr. Pollock referred his Lordship to sections 50 and 52 of the code.

His Lordship—In future there will simply be the usual application to the Registrar to fix a day.

Mr. Pollock—Your Lordship will see from the statement of claim filed that the plaintiffs are claiming for \$5,000, cash advanced on the 16th ultimo. Two promissory notes were given on that date for the amount, one for \$3,000 and the other for \$2,000.

Luk Pak Ham, sworn, said he was the managing partner of the plaintiff firm, which carried on business at 69 Wing Lok Street. The plaintiff advanced the sum of \$5,000 to the defendant on the 16th November, and he gave them an acknowledgment. The whole amount was still due and owing. Witness did not know where defendant was, although he had had people looking for him until yesterday.

Mr. Pollock said he had attached the property of the defendant on account of money owing to other creditors, as well as the one before the Court. He would ask for execution with regard to that.

His Lordship—On the last occasion, when I gave judgment it was general, because the writ was a general writ of attachment.

Mr. Pollock—With regard to the question of execution?

His Lordship—Execution had best be limited to the movable property of the defendant registered in his name under a memorial, and attached by the plaintiffs. Judgment will be given as prayed, together with interest claimed and costs.

A SIMILAR APPLICATION.

Mr. Pollock made a second application against the defendant, the plaintiffs being the Ming San Pon bank.

Mr. Pollock stated that the claim of the plaintiffs was for \$10,000 lent to the defendant on the 24th September, and a second \$10,000 advanced on the 27th of the same month; in all, \$20,000, together with interest and costs.

Leung Hok San, manager of the plaintiff bank, gave evidence as to the advance of the money, after which his Lordship gave judgment as prayed together with interest and costs.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

AN OLD DEBT.

The Lok Kee firm claimed from Chui Siug Chi the sum of \$780, being balance due on money lent and interest thereon.

Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) represented the defendant.

Mr. Master said the claim was for \$780 being for interest and balance of principal lent by the plaintiff to the defendant who was under arrest. The principal was \$300, and interest had accumulated until it had reached \$780. He had received notice of two technical defences from the other side; one, under the Summary Jurisdiction Act, was that the claim was out of time, and the other came under Ordinance I. of 1851.

His Lordship—It would be very much more convenient, Mr. Grist, if, when you forward the other side notice of these objections, you would also supply the court with copies.

Mr. Grist handed same to his Lordship.

His Lordship—Well, let's get on.

The managing partner of the plaintiff firm said the defendant borrowed \$300 from him for which he gave a promissory note. From time to time he had paid \$45 on account, but had refused to pay anything more.

After hearing further evidence, his Lordship said he was sorry he could do nothing for the defendant. He believed there was a swindle, but he must pay up. There would be judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

Thursday, 14th December.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

APPLICATION FOR A RECEIVING ORDER.
Re Wong Cheung Kee *ex parte* Wing Fung Leung.

This was an application for a receiving order. Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) who applied, said there were six petitioners. Leave to effect substituted service had been obtained, and the service had been effected. Affidavits were on the file, one made by the bailiff and one by himself as to the insertion of the various notices in the newspapers. The petitioners were all judgment creditors. The aggregate of the judgment debts was \$2,144.77, and the taxed costs amounted to \$717.90. The notice had been served on the manager—

His Lordship—You cannot serve a bankruptcy notice, except on the bankrupt himself, without first getting leave.

Mr. Goldring—That refers to service out of the Colony. We are applying for a receiving order against the firm, not against an individual.

His Lordship—There is no such thing as the bankruptcy of a firm; the bankruptcy is the individual members of the firm. There is a recent case in which that is laid down.

Mr. Goldring referred his Lordship to section 6 sub-section 2.

His Lordship—I daresay that the procedure goes on against the firm, but what it is in fact is a bankruptcy of individuals. According to the rules the service of a petition may be assimilated to the service of the writ because it is the initial document in the proceedings. The service of a bankruptcy notice is a very different thing, because the service of the notice does not initiate proceedings.

Mr. Goldring—We have a special provision in the Code which brings in a firm as an individual.

His Lordship—Well, I cannot go beyond that case, which is a House of Lords case. I can't remember the name of it now, but you can look it up in the Court of Appeal, 2 Q.B., re A. B. & Co. Meantime, the matter can stand over.

Later, Mr. Goldring informed his Lordship that he had found the case. It was Cook, appellant, and C. A. Voegler & Co., respondents.

His Lordship—The giving of your bankruptcy notice is the act of bankruptcy, but the service must be on the members of the firm.

Mr. Goldring—May I again refer your Lordship to bankruptcy ordinance 6, Sub-section 1?

His Lordship—The whole point in this case is whether the act of bankruptcy could be committed by an agent or somebody else other than a partner of the firm.

Mr. Goldring—Well, my Lord, there is a provision in our Code.

His Lordship—Well, I must consider it. Is there nothing analogous to it in the Bankruptcy Ordinance?

Mr. Goldring—Apparently not, my Lord. I cannot find anything.

His Lordship—Very well. The application stands adjourned until Thursday next.

ANOTHER RECEIVING ORDER WANTED.

Re Shum Wa San *ex parte* Chow Wing.

Mr. F. P. d'Almada e Castro, who appeared for the petitioning creditor, said the service of the petition had been proved by affidavit.

His Lordship—In ordinary cases of actions against a firm, you don't want leave to serve personally other than the person in control.

Mr. d'Almada stated that the bankrupt firm gave notice of suspension of payment. Their debt to the petitioning creditor was \$500, while the assets of the firm, so far as his client could make out, as mentioned in the declaration, were \$5,500 the greater portion of which was recoverable. The liabilities of the firm amount to \$4,500.

His Lordship—It is hardly a case for bankruptcy.

Mr. Almada—Some of the debts may not be recoverable my Lord.

His Lordship—Why have you not brought an action to recover your \$500?

Mr. Almada—The man gave notice that he was suspending payment of his debts.

His Lordship—That certainly puts you within the bankruptcy law, but you show that the greater portion of the \$5,500 is recoverable, and that the debtor's liabilities are only \$4,500.

Mr. Almada—There is \$1,100 in Canton, which may not be recoverable.

His Lordship—You say it is in your affidavit.

Mr. Almada—I say I verily believe it is.

His Lordship—What do you say, Mr. Wakeman? This case is similar to those cases we had last day.

Mr. Wakeman—The debtor is here to speak for himself.

Li Yuk Sau, sworn, said he was one of the partners of the Shun Wa San firm. The liabilities of the firm were about \$5,000 while the assets were a little over \$6,000, about \$5,000 of which was recoverable. He could not collect the money owing in Canton, but thought the Official Receiver could recover it.

His Lordship—Even then, there is only \$1,100 in Canton. Without that there is plenty to pay his debts.

Mr. Almada—If he sues those who are in his debt and recovers.

His Lordship—But don't people pay without being sued?

(To debtor)—Have you tried to collect this money?

Debtor—Yes. But I am put off from time to time.

His Lordship—There is one amount owing by the Nam Hing Cheong firm; is that recoverable?

Debtor—Yes.

His Lordship—Have you tried to recover it?

Debtor—Yes. But they put me off.

His Lordship—What standing has the Nam Hing Cheong?

Mr. Almada—I don't know, my Lord.

His Lordship—The next thing will be that they will go bankrupt, and there will be a string of bankruptcies one after the other. I don't decline the petition, but it will stand over.

A DEBTOR'S PETITION.

Chan San Shek and another *ex parte* the debtors.

Mr. Almada, who appeared for the petitioning creditor, said this was a debtor's petition. In the usual form of affidavit proof of the assets had been filed by the debtors themselves. The assets were \$49,500 and the liabilities \$74,000.

His Lordship—I think this is a case for a receiving order.

Mr. Almada—May I ask your Lordship for an order for the receiver to sell this stock before adjudication?

His Lordship—That is a matter for the Official Receiver to decide.

Mr. Almada—I understand the Official Receiver has no objection.

His Lordship—Very well. An order for the sale of the stock is granted.

APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT OF COSTS.

Re Han Fuk Cheung *ex parte* the Hong Yuen Bank.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. Hastings' office) applied on behalf of the San Wing Cheong firm, under Section 33 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, for payment of the said firm's taxed costs.

His Lordship—What was the act of bankruptcy?

Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), who appeared for the petitioning creditor, said the act of bankruptcy alleged was the departure from the Colony of two of the partners of the firm. That departure was supposed to have occurred in the early part of October when a letter was written by the firm, addressed generally to the creditors, stating that the partners were leaving the Colony, and would leave their goods to be disposed of by the creditors.

Mr. Wakeman thought the application was rather premature, as the firm had not yet been adjudicated bankrupt. He could not say at present whether the estate had sufficient funds to pay the costs.

His Lordship—I suppose the motion is that the costs should come in and be proveable like other debts.

Mr. Dixon—I want the whole of the costs as a preferential payment. I believe it is a practice of the Court.

Mr. Wakeman—It is dependant on the amount of assets, my Lord. I have given my friend notice that I could not go into this application to-day.

Mr. Beavis—I am instructed to make an application that the debtor be adjudicated bankrupt. A petition has been served by substituted service, and the creditors have by a resolution decided that the debtor should be adjudicated bankrupt.

His Lordship—I have always understood that I had no option under Section 19 as far as adjudication goes?

Mr. Wakeman—Quite so, my Lord.

His Lordship—Then, Mr. Beavis, you can take your order.

Mr. Beavis—As regards the costs of the petitioning creditor he would have priority over all others.

His Lordship—That can be dealt with in the Receiver's report and the whole question of costs will stand over until after that has been furnished, when I will decide.

THE MILLIONAIRE BANKRUPT.

Re Choy Chung Li.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), who appeared for the debtor, said he understood from the Official Receiver that he did not want to ask his client anything further. He wished therefore to apply for the close of the public examination and the release of the security.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, asked his Lordship not to release the security until the bankruptcy proceedings had closed. His Lordship would see that the order did not in any way refer to the examination.

His Lordship—What was this warrant. I don't remember this.

Mr. Goldring—On the 2nd August your Lordship ordered that the debtor be arrested under sub-section D of Section 24.

His Lordship—Do I understand you to say there was security for his appearance.

Mr. Goldring—Yes. And he turned up the same day as his public examination came on. On the 2nd August a warrant was issued for his arrest on the ground that without good cause shown he failed to attend his public examination. I applied in Chambers next day for his release, and by consent the warrant was suspended on his giving \$5,000 security. Now that the public examination is closed, I am entitled to the return of the security.

Mr. Bowley referred his Lordship to section 27. He said there were many reasons for issuing such an order as the bankrupt was not only to attend his public examination, but to assist the trustee in the realisation of his assets.

His Lordship—The offence under which the warrant was issued refers to his attending the public examination.

Mr. Bowley submitted that it was to the interest of the creditors that the security be continued, and asked His Lordship to continue it under sub-section B.

His Lordship—All I could do on that application would be to issue a warrant. There is nothing said about security.

Mr. Bowley—I don't know, my Lord, under what provision the security was made by consent I understand. An order having been made for security, I submit that it is substituted for the warrant, and instead of continuing the warrant, I ask your Lordship to continue the security.

Mr. Wakeman—It is the practice of the court to take security for the defendant's appearance.

Mr. Bowley—Your Lordship will understand that although the public examination has been closed, the assets have not been realised. The only assets realised at the present time are \$1,000, therefore it is necessary in the interests of the creditors that the debtor should not leave the jurisdiction of the court until the bankruptcy proceedings were wound up. I would also refer your Lordship to Section 45 regarding bankrupts, property out of the Colony, and I am instructed that the debtor has property out of the Colony.

His Lordship—Yes. It has been suggested on several occasions that he is entitled to property by his father's will.

Mr. Bowley—No, my Lord. Outside his father's will.

His Lordship—Even then my power would only be to punish him for contempt of court. The defendant is now in custody, but apparently has been released on bail.

Mr. Bowley—He is at present on bail as far as the Police Court proceedings go. If they fail, then the bail goes, and if your Lordship releases this security, we will have none. I understood from my friend that he would not apply for the release of the security, consequently this application comes as a surprise.

Mr. Dixon, who represented the petitioning creditor, pointed out that if the debtor absconded the creditors would get no benefit at all from the security.

His Lordship adjourned the case.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

Re Ko Ping and another ex parte the debtors

This examination, which was conducted by the Official Receiver, was in connection with the Wo Cheung firm, Ko Cheung, an alleged partner, being examined. He said he had never been a partner in the firm, although with another man he signed the firm's promissory notes. The liabilities were \$65,840, the greater part of which was for loans. He did not know how the firm got into difficulties.

Mr. Wakeman said that as far as the firm was concerned he believed the witness had made himself liable as a partner.

Mr. Bonner asked that the debtor be adjudicated bankrupt.

His Lordship adjourned the application, but closed the public examination.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR A BALANCE.

The E On firm sued U Kam to recover the sum of \$242.88 being balance due for work done and material supplied.

Mr. F. P. Hett (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) represented the defendant.

Mr. Hett said the action was brought by the plaintiff's firm, contractors and builders, to recover the amount claimed in the writ. With regard to the payment of \$22.80 into Court, he would like to raise the point of law which he thought entitled him to judgment for the whole claim. It was provided by the Code that payment into Court should be taken to be an admission of the cause of action in respect of which the amount was paid in.

His Lordship—Yes. They admit they owe \$22.80.

Mr. Hett—That is so, my Lord.

Mr. Hett referred his Lordship to Section 153, and referred to a previous action wherein he obtained judgment, which was on all fours with the present case.

His Lordship said he should like to see the case referred to and adjourned the hearing.

A DECIDED ACTION.

Ip Fat On, trading as the Mow Cheong claimed from Ip Sun Kui the sum of \$1,000 being balance of money paid by the plaintiff at the request of the defendant for the construction of house No. 131 Upper Main Street, Kowloon.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Harding for the defendant.

Mr. Kong Sing having related the facts of the case, Mr. Harding raised the preliminary objection that the case had already been decided by the assistant Land Officer.

His Lordship—I didn't know he was a judge.

Mr. Harding referred his Lordship to various sections in the New Territories Land Ordinance in support of his contention, and produced a certified copy of the evidence taken in the Land Court, and of the judgment upon that evidence.

His Lordship adjourned the case in order that he might be supplied with the evidence in question for perusal.

Mr. A. Guibert, the French Vice-Consul at Hongkong, has been appointed consul at Pakhoi. His friends will be pleased to learn of his promotion and we join with them in wishing him a prosperous career.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

9th November.

THE LINCHOW AFFAIR.

I am informed the United States Vice-Consul has received a telegram informing him that the Commissioners left Linchow yesterday.

EARNEST STUDENTS.

The education department here has notified the public that the second batch of members of the gentry who have expressed their desire to proceed to Japan to study commercial and political economy questions, are requested to call at the offices of the Board of Education to report themselves between the 9th and 13th inst., and to hold themselves ready to start on their voyage before the Chinese New Year. It is stated that the Government gives each member 30 taels to defray expenses during the six months' stay in Japan. The first batch of 40 proceeded to Japan about a month ago.

CHRISTMAS SPORTS.

I am informed that the officers of the U. S. S. monitor *Monadnock* have subscribed 300 dollars gold for the purchase of numerous prizes to be presented to winners of the different events during the sports which they are now organising for Xmas. The events will be open to all residents of Shameen.

THE YUNNAN RAILWAY.

The French Mission college of Canton which was founded a few years ago by Bishop Merel is in a flourishing condition; many scholars attend the institution which is very ably directed by Rev. Fourquet. A few days ago a batch of fifteen of the best scholars received appointments on the Yunnan Railway Syndicate's staff as interpreters and have left for Yunnan. As they are all Cantonese it is hoped that they will be able to promote a better understanding between employers and labourers and allay any ill-feeling that still exists through past misunderstandings.

A CHINESE INVENTOR.

A man named Fung-chun has invented a bullet proof shield, and asked the Viceroy's patronage. He says the Imperial Troops, armed with his invention, can decimate their enemies and go unscathed themselves. Viceroy Shum's reply is said to have been, "Take that thing away."

THE BANK PURSUES.

Wai-Long-Shan, of the Wai-Fung Co., is heavily indebted to the Taiwan Bank of Hongkong. The Japanese Consul has sent a despatch to Viceroy Shum requesting that the debtor be arrested and compelled to pay his debts. The Consul adds that Wai has been seen in the streets of Canton on several occasions. It is reported the Viceroy Shum has given instructions to the Nam-Hoi, Poon-Yu and Hang-shan magistrates to effect his arrest.

BOYCOTT.

Another boycott meeting was held here on the 7th inst., when delegates from Hongkong, Macao, Fatshan, Shekloon, Saiwan, and even Shanghai, were present. Taotai Cheang To-chai presided. After considering suggested amendments of the American law, it was agreed that it would be no use to engage in further conference with American merchants. The meeting adjourned *sine die*.

11th December.

HONGKONG-CANTON RAILWAY.

Viceroy Shum recently forwarded a despatch to the Governor of Hongkong suggesting the conditions under which the two systems may be linked. A reply has been received, but its nature is not disclosed.

NEW WHARF.

Sometime ago I reported that new piers were going to be constructed on the new bund to accommodate Hongkong steamers which have hitherto been obliged to moor on the Honam side of the river. One of them is about completed and is situated just below the last wharf of the Steamboat Co. The structure is substantial and is a credit to the architects, Messrs. Purnell and Paget, under whose guidance and plans the work has been carried out in such a short space of time.

SPIRITED AWAY.

It appears that the city is haunted by evil spirits! Men lose their queues while walking about the streets, the victims discovering their

loss through the smiles of passers by. Chickens are mysteriously deprived of their wings. A man living near the small north gate is the latest victim. He had about \$100 in his pillow, case, which was securely locked up in a box. Yesterday he found that the money had been "spirited away," as he found in its stead an image on which were the words, "Fung Ming Tsui Po," which means "Treasure removed by order of God." These spirits are without doubt not "gaseous invertebrates" but dishonest bipeds who have hit upon the idea of covering their tracks by stirring up clouds of superstition. Many people do believe that it is ghost-pidjin, and refrain from telling the police.

12th December.

PROVINCIAL BANK.

Some months ago Cheng Yn Luk, the ex-provincial judge of Canton, memorialized Viceroy Shum on the subject of the establishment of a Provincial Bank in Canton with a capital of one million taels. He stated that the bank could collect the provincial revenue (Tls. 5,000,000) and remit same to Peking periodically. It is said that Viceroy Shum has sanctioned the opening of this Bank.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.

The doings of the evil spirits believed to be haunting the city at present still occupy the public mind. Every evening news comes of the removal of queues in a mysterious manner. The police are keeping a vigilant watch and in the course of time one of these ghostly barbers may be caught. Then the scare will be ended.

CHAU-TUNG-SANG'S AFFAIRS.

The Nam-Hoi has been very busy within the past few days, preparing, with the collaboration of several contractors, a valuation report of Chau-Tung-sang's family residence in the Po-Wah-Ching, Cheung-Yuk. The report will be ready in a few days and tenders will be invited for the purchase of this magnificent property. The land, together with the buildings thereon, is said to be valued at Tl.100,000 at least.

QUAINT CHINESE SARCASM.

The Ying-Tak Magistrate, whose term of office has just expired, left his prefecture on the 6th inst. He is said to have been very unpopular among the inhabitants of that prefecture. They gave expression to their dissatisfaction at the way in which he administered the prefecture's affairs by placing a hundred straw dummies near the wharf from which he was to embark. No real people were present to see him off.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

11th December.

THE SUN PIU LOTTERY.

This lottery has made its start in the city. Man Sun Kung-ze is the name of the firm and its office is at the Largo do Senado. The first drawing takes place next week. As I anticipated, this lottery is already affecting the sale of the Macao lottery, a great many tickets for which remained unsold.

BANCO NATIONAL'S NOTES.

As reported by me last week, the decision of this Bank to circulate in this city their \$5 and \$1 notes will be a boon to the people of Macao. I hope that they will gradually do away with Chinese twenty and ten cent pieces, which are a nuisance here.

MONEY ORDERS.

I also hear that arrangements have been made between the Hongkong and Macao Post Offices for issuing money orders between the two colonies. If this rumour turns out to be correct, it will be a good thing, as the means of remitting small sums of money between Macao and Hongkong have long been wanted.

"O BOLETIM ECCLESIASTICO."

The Bishop requested Mr. F. X. dos Remedios to resume the publication of this paper, and Mr. Remedios has agreed.

THE TRANSPORT "AFRICA."

This transport left Macao on Thursday night with many time-expired officers and soldiers and prisoners.

THE WEATHER.

The weather here of late has been very bad, cloudy and damp; but so far no cold has yet been felt.

HOTELS.

I understand that by the end of the year, we shall have one hotel short here. There is no doubt that there are too many hotels in a small place like Macao, where there are really very few attractions except gambling.

A CHINESE SMUGGLING STORY.

ARMS IN COFFINS: AN OFFICIAL DILEMMA.

(FROM OUR CANTON CORRESPONDENT.)

A native of Hunan recently shipped two coffins from Canton to his native province. They were declared to contain the bodies of two of his relatives. On arrival at Ying-Tak, the coffins were taken ashore, as the river is not deep enough for navigation beyond that place. About 60 people were engaged to carry the coffins overland; the unusual number of men employed attracted the attention of the likin officials, who suspected fraud and caused the coffins to be weighed. Each coffin weighed over 20 piculs. This confirmed their suspicions, and they caused the coffins to be detained. Sui Fan Shan, the owner, was arrested and sent to Canton under escort. A petition has been sent to Viceroy Shum, stating the circumstances, and instructions are awaited before proceeding further in the matter. The coffins are suspected to be filled with arms and ammunition.

Chinese law prohibits the opening of coffins, even by officials searching for contraband. Any persons opening a coffin are liable to capital punishment. Under the circumstances, the likin officials have simply detained the coffins pending the result of the investigation which will no doubt be ordered by Viceroy Shum.

PROPOSED CIVIL SERVICE CO-OPERATIVE STORE.

A large attended meeting of those engaged in the Civil Service of the Colony was held at the Club Pavilion, Happy Valley, on the 14th December for the purpose of considering the advisability of establishing a Civil Service Co-operative Store. Dr. Clark presided and in his opening remarks stated that H. E. the Governor approved of the proposed scheme provided that all in the service of the Government, such as the military and the naval, were included in its purview. Several members explained how such organisations were conducted elsewhere and, after discussion, a committee was appointed to make inquiries as to whether the scheme would be practicable in Hongkong and whether it was likely to receive adequate support. The committee which was given full powers was constituted as follows: Dr. Clark (chairman), Mr. Lewington, naval yard; Chief Inspector Baker; Mr. Barrington, P.W.D.; Chief Inspector Hanson; Mr. Woodcock, secretary of Sanitary Board; Messrs. D. J. McKenzie, Conley and Lyons, sanitary inspectors; and Mr. Lawrence, inspector naval yard police.

TWO TYPICAL DECREES.

The *N.-C. Daily News* thus translates two typical Chinese Imperial Decrees, dated Dec. 5:—

(1) Decree refusing request of the Board of Punishments to lighten the sentence of a female prisoner condemned to be strangled for murder, and handing the officials of that Board, concerned in preferring the request, over to the Board of Civil Appointments for the determination of adequate penalties for breach of etiquette.

(2) Decree commanding that fifteen large sticks of Tibetan incense be sent to Lin Ch'ing-yung, Commander-in-Chief of the Kiangpeh region, to be offered in the name of the Emperor before the altars of the Dragon river gods, as a token of Imperial gratitude for the peaceful state of the lakes and rivers in that region since the fall of frost.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

Progress in scholastic education, particularly the Anglo-Chinese education given in Queen's College, is the most notable feature in the printed report by the examiners laid before the Legislative Council on Dec. 7th, and that that advance is most creditable will be admitted when one remembers the difficulties under which the work is conducted. With experience, however, these should disappear and greater improvement should follow. The report, which is signed by Messrs. Edward A. Irving, G. N. Orme, and H. R. Wells, sets out very fully the conclusions at which the examiners arrived on considering the system and subject matter of the teaching throughout the school. They speak of the discipline as being very good but indicate the difficulty of noting the progress by the scholars because no suitable records are kept, while the disadvantage of using the big hall as a schoolroom where four divisions, doing different work, are taught at once is pointed out.

The writer of the report is not without a sense of humour. In referring to the teaching of English, he says that Class VIII., composed of boys who have been at the school about three months "are already beginning to talk and show no false shame in the matter." While of Class VII. he states that "the boys all showed themselves ready to talk up to the extreme limit of their vocabularies." More critical is the report on Division A of Class V, where "it was a very hard matter to get the boys to reply except in monosyllables. Apparently the master is too apt to cast his questions in a form which can only be answered in one or two words." "Division B. was weak." "In Division C. the boys, except a few at the top, were unable to make themselves heard," while "Division D. was also not very efficient." Traces of the old difficulty in getting boys to talk re-appeared in Class IV. Division A, but "in Division B. the boys selected for conversation did much better and talked glibly enough about the proposed boycott of American goods." Even in the lowest class in the Upper School "the ability and willingness of the boys to talk English with a stranger has very greatly increased during the last two years."

Apparently geography is beginning to interest the boyish mind here, but according to the examiners history does not possess the same attractions. "The study of history is rightly left until a boy enters the Upper School, and then he is initiated into the mysteries of English History, and introduced to Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, the Duke of Buckingham and Guy Fawkes. This study he pursues throughout the rest of his school career; and he forms, perhaps, as lucid an idea of the figures and doings thereof as an English boy would form of a Chinese account of Confucius and the Duke of Chau." There was only one class that showed any capacity for understanding a history so alien to Chinese ideas.

On the subject of hygiene we extract the following comments:—"This new subject, which is studied in Classes I.-V., does not seem to be popular. Only a few boys have found their bearings in it. The examiners found it necessary to insist continually upon the reference which it has to the daily life. However the boys at the top of the Lower Classes and nearly all the boys in the Upper School seem to have acquired some idea of the advantages of ventilation, pure water and the preparation of food. At present only a few elementary facts have been taught, and those only for a short time, so that any conclusions as to their permanent effect on the boys' minds would be premature. Still we cannot doubt but that the elements of hygiene must form a useful addition to the somewhat limited curriculum of an Anglo-Chinese School; further, they possess the advantage that when once learned they are not likely to be forgotten. The chief difficulty of the boys has been in separating the general from the particular. 'The proper ventilation of a room consists in having an open space at the rear as ordered by the Sanitary Board,' and so forth. It is gratifying to observe the respect in which that Body is held, yet from an educational point of view a breach of its bye-laws must not be confused with defiance of a natural law. The value of a safe in keeping food clean is usually appreciated,

but that of cooking does not appear so obvious, nor the use of clothing, nor the comparative advantages of different materials and different kinds of food."

For once it is surprising to find the Chinese, even though young in years, having hazy ideas on the subject of money, for according to the examiners, while Class VII. spend much of their time on problems involving English money, many boys in Division C had only a slight idea of the dollar value of the shillings and guineas which they manipulate so readily, and a very vague idea of what the coins look like.

Alluding to the "eclipse of common sense during examination," the report states: "It is to be wished that the boys could be taught, after they have finished a problem, to read through the question and their answer and then ask themselves, 'Is this sense or nonsense?' Then we should not have calculations proving that it takes many thousand years—or alternatively an hour—to make a circuit of Hongkong. Were a little more thought used, a slip in a decimal point might at once be discovered and corrected."

Though the weak spots in the system are pointed out, the report shows that good work is being accomplished in the College.

THE YUNNAN RAILWAY.

VICEROY SHUM AND THE LABOUR DIFFICULTY.

The Société de Construction de Chemin de fer Indo-Chinois, which is making the line from Laokay to Yunnansen, has been experiencing considerable trouble in connection with their supply of Chinese labour. We understand that the line will traverse many miles of country in the Yunnan province which is at present very sparsely populated and the Railway Company has consequently had to recruit coolies in the provinces of Kwangsi and Kwangtung. Through the good offices of the French Consul at Canton the Railway Company last year secured the support of the Viceroy in this direction, but in consequence of allegations of ill-treatment the supply of labour from the two Kwang provinces was prohibited. The French Consul was moreover requested to cable to the Company to send back to Canton all the labourers recruited in the province, and the Viceroy of Yunnan was at the same time instructed to investigate the allegations of ill-treatment and to secure adequate protection for the coolies.

In a proclamation just issued by the Viceroy of Canton, His Excellency, after referring to the circumstances mentioned above, announces that he has received a telegram from the Viceroy of Yunnan stating that the French Consul there urges that labourers are greatly needed for the work on the line. Cantonese labourers, he said, are best fitted for the work. He explained that the late trouble arose through unsatisfactory relations between the foreign and Cantonese labour contractors resulting in the labourers giving up their work. Thus a considerable sum of money was wasted. The Yunnan Viceroy now asked that a new arrangement should be entered into with the French Consul in Canton under which an office should be opened in Canton for recruiting labourers willing to proceed to Yunnan. The Railway Company would undertake to keep their foreign employees under proper control and require them to strictly comply with all conditions of the arrangement made, and they would guarantee that there will be no repetition of the late occurrences. The proclamation further states that the Officer in charge of Foreign Affairs has had consultations with the French Consul in Canton, and had reported that the Railway Company admitted that the late arrangement had not been satisfactorily carried out, and were desirous of entering into a new arrangement. They asked that an officer [representing the Canton Government?] should be sent to Yunnan to watch the interests of the labourers sent there, the Company being willing to provide quarters for the officer and to pay his salary. The Company further agreed to deposit a sum of money with a bank in Canton as security for the fulfilment of the conditions of the arrangement, and in the event of any deductions made from the wages of labourers, or any violation of the agreement the sum deposited will be available for making good any losses thereby incurred. The Company would undertake in

cases of sickness to provide proper attention for the sick and to bear all medical expenses, and in case of death the Company would defray funeral expenses and give ample compensation to the relatives of such deceased persons. The Company has, therefore, entreated the Viceroy to annul the proclamation prohibiting the migration of labourers to Yunnan.

The Viceroy suggests that if these undertakings are faithfully performed and the officer deputed to watch the interests of the labourers affords them due protection, the proposal will help to alleviate distress among the labouring classes of the province. But before consenting to annul the prohibition, His Excellency publicly requests all who have had any complaint to make against the company to send to him within a month from the issue of the proclamation a statement of the facts, and he invites suggestions for consideration with a view to ensuring the protection of the labourers' interests. His Excellency also requests all who are willing or unwilling to proceed to Yunnan to work on the railway to report themselves to the Yamen direct or through the Commercial Bureau within a month. After the expiration of one month, if no opposition is offered to the proposals, His Excellency announces that he will take it that the people are willing to be invited, and he will then make an agreement with the French Consul. If any person, before the cancelling of the prohibition, surreptitiously engages workmen to proceed to Yunnan, he will, upon discovery, be arrested and punished with the utmost rigour of the law. The proclamation, it is added, is issued for the public information, and the people of the whole province are required to obey it.

THE ANNEXATION OF BRUNEI.

Our recent telegram from Labuan is confirmed by the following:—It is reported that an administration of Brunei, under British protection, has been arranged on lines similar to those made in the case of the taking over of the Federated Malay States.

This in reality means the annexation of the Sultanate.

The pension of the Sultan is to be \$1,000 per month, and each of the two chief Pengerans is to receive \$500 per month.

There is a probability that the erstwhile Brunei territory of Limbang, recently purchased from the British North Borneo Government by the Rajah of Sarawak and annexed by him without the consent of the Sultan of Brunei or all the Pengerans of Limbang itself, will eventually be reincorporated with Brunei, when the administration of the latter country is taken over by the British.

Otherwise, it is stated, our occupation of Brunei would be useless.

By the accession of the British power in Brunei, the administration of the Brunei town of Brooketon by the officials of the Rajah of Sarawak will probably cease.

A NEW HONGKONG MONOPOLY.

The board of directors of the Osaka Alkali Company has decided to raise a foreign loan of ¥500,000 through Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. on the security of the company's property. The rate of interest is not yet settled, the capitalists stipulating for 7 per cent., and the Alkali Company offering 6 per cent., but it is expected an agreement will soon be arrived at. By the contract so far agreed upon Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. will be appointed the sole agents for the sale in Hongkong and southwards of the sulphuric acid produced by the Alkali Company. This is one of the conditions of the loan. We learn that one half of the amount to be borrowed will be used for the redemption of the company's existing 9 per cent. debentures and the other half as a working fund of the new departure for the manufacture of fertilisers. A special general meeting of the shareholders of the company is called for the 11th proximo for the consideration of the proposed loan. The capital of the Alkali Company is 1,000,000 yen., all paid up. The company declared a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. for the second half of 1908, and of 5 per cent. for the first half of last year.

REVIEWS.

The Cosmopolitan, an Illustrated Monthly, No. 8. Shanghai: N.-C. Herald Office. \$1.

With shame and confusion of countenance, the reviewer discovers that he has misunderstood the "motif" of this most attractive publication. It is not meant to merely amuse; the anonymous editor-proprietor-contributor has a mission. What before seemed feeble humour is seen to be subtle wit, designed to awaken the populace of Shanghai, where, to quote Tolstoy, as translated by the editor, "generation after generation live and die without knowing why." This journalistic Sisyphus essays, alone and unaided, save by the printer's best art, to carry "the whole (unleavened) lump" with him to the top where his alter ego sits like a Democritus, laughing with grief at the follies and follies of Shanghai society. His policy is to tell the (slightly embroidered) truth on all occasions, and so to shock a vacant-minded mob into what he considers common-sense. Shanghai may not detect the imputation, but even then our gallant contemporary has set himself a hard row to hoe. We wish him well, and can honestly assert that, whether regarded as a human document or a mere dollar's worth of shrewd reading, the *Cosmopolitan* is not a magazine to be ignored. When its author is murdered, and his body sunk beyond recovery in the Yangkingpang, all available copies will be collected by the Municipal Council, placed in glass cases along the banks of that odorous tributary, and above will be written: *Si monumentum requiris, circumspice!*

No 3 seems the best number yet. In the large and valuable collection of snapshots we note a speaking likeness of two Hongkong visitors.

Shanghai: Its Sights and Scenes. (A book of views) Shanghai: Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

Those interested by the recent photographic exhibition will find here a remarkable collection of examples of how photos may be pictures in the true sense of the word. As illustrating that interesting city and its environs, it would be difficult to find a set of more accurate or vivid presentments: and the printing is fully equal to the fine plates. There are nearly fifty of these exquisite pictures, which have only to be seen to be coveted. Cannot something like it be done for Hongkong?

Indian Love, by LAURENCE HOPE. London: William Heinemann. 5s.

This is a book of florid Indian poetry, with a portrait of the author, a lady. As guide to the quality of the forty-odd other gems of passion and poetry, the following "On Pilgrimage" may be taken as typical:—

"Oh, youthful bearer of my palanquin,
Thy glossy hair lies loosened on thy neck,
The 'tears of labour' gem thy velvet skin
Whose even texture knows no other fleck.
Thy slender shoulder strains beneath my weight:
Too fair thou art, for work, sweet slave of mine.

Would that this idle breast, reversing fate,
A willing serf to love, supported thine!
I smell the savage scent of sunwarmed fur.
Close in the Jungle, musky, hot and sweet—
The air comes from thy shoulder, even as myrrh.
Would we were as the panthers, free to meet.

The Temple road is steep: I grieve to see
Thy slender ankles brushed among the clouds.

Oh, my Beloved, if I might worship thee!
Beauty is greater far than all the Gods."

And evidently, we reflect in some surprise, the chair-coolie is a handsomer animal than he is on this edge of Asia:

Banking and Prices in China, by the late Dr. EDKINS. Shanghai: Presbyterian Mission Press.

The preface says all that needs to be said of this interesting publication, so we quote: "This volume is the third of a series of works prepared by the late J. Edkins, D.D., for the Imperial Maritime Customs; the two earlier works being 'Chinese Currency' (1901) and 'The Revenue and Taxation of the Chinese Empire' (1903).

The veteran sinologue was engaged on this work at the time of his death on the 23rd April, 1905, and it was left incomplete, literally in the middle of a sentence. Though incomplete it is now given to the public on account of the historical information of great value to be found in its pages."

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The 31st report to the shareholders says:—Gentlemen, the directors submit to you the annexed statement of the liabilities and assets of the company, and the profit and loss account for the half-year, ended September 30th, 1905.

The gross profits of the company for the past half-year amount to Yen 4,077,808.764, out of which there has been paid:

	Yen.
Depreciation of the company's fleet and property	793,611.360
Insurance fund	303,470.650
Ships' structural repair fund	455,906.370
Special repair and renewal fund for steamers in transport service	1,000,000.000
	Yen 2,552,988.380

leaving a balance of Yen 2,519,104.860, including Yen 994,284.476 brought forward from the last account.

The directors now propose that Yen 76,241.020 be added to the reserve fund, raising it to Yen 2,209,579.996; and that Yen 71,358.110 be allowed as directors' and auditors' fees. From the remainder the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of ten per cent, together with two per cent. as special dividend, thus making twelve per cent. per annum, which will absorb Yen 1,320,000.000.

The balance, Yen 1,051,505.73, will be carried forward to the next account.

REMPEI KONDO,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET.

30th December, 1905.	
LIABILITIES.	Yen
Share capital	22,000,000.000
Debentures	600,000.000
Insurance fund	2,963,289.651
Ships' Structural Repair Fund	3,677,391.487
Special Repair and Renewal Fund for steamers in transport service	1,047,249.159
Reserve fund	2,133,338.976
Dividend equalization fund	3,300,000.000
Fund for the extension of services and improvement of the fleet	3,500,000.000
Pension fund for employees	653,230.830
Sundry creditors	4,980,422.452
Amount brought forward from last account	994,284.476
Net profit for the half-year	1,524,820.384
	Yen 47,374,016.415

ASSETS	
	Yen
Reduced book value of fleet	24,247,827.121
Reduced book value of launches, barges, &c.	192,053.621
Payment on account of new ships	307,524.810
Buildings and land	3,844,928.334
Yangtse-Kiang line account	1,531,528.150
Yokohama stores depart., &c.	1,030,557.075
Public loans and other securities	7,894,295.750
Cash at bankers and in hand	6,502,604.172
Sundry debtors	1,822,697.382
	Yen 47,374,016.415

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen
To depreciation of fleet and property	793,611.360
To insurance fund	303,470.650
To ships' structural repair fund	455,906.370
To special repair and renewal fund for steamers in transport service	1,000,000.000
To reserve fund	76,241.020
To directors' and auditors' fees	71,358.110
To dividend (10 per cent.)	1,100,000.000
To special dividend (2 per cent.)	220,000.000
To balance carried forward to next account	1,051,505.730
	Yen 6,072,093.240
By balance brought forward 31st March, 1905	994,284.476
By amount of gross profits for the half-year, ended 30th September, 1905	4,077,808.764
	Yen 5,072,093.240

THE EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

The report for presentation at the tenth ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held December 16th, is as follows:—

The general managers have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the audited statements of accounts to the 31st of October, 1905, showing the result of twelve months' working to that date.

During the year under review there has been an ample supply of good cotton and an active demand for our yarns, conditions which have resulted in the industry of spinning generally being a much more prosperous one than we have been in a position to review in previous reports.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account is Tls. 253,095.14, to which has to be added Tls. 12,844.76, carried from last year, making available a sum of Tls. 265,939.90, which it is recommended should be dealt with as follow:—

	Tls.
To pay a dividend of Tls. 8.00 per share on 15,000 shares	120,000.00
To carry forward to new account a credit of	100,000.00
To transfer to renewals and repairs account	45,939.90
	Tls. 265,939.90

Consulting Committee.—In accordance with Article XVII., the members of the Consulting Committee retire but all are eligible, and offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. Wingrove has audited the accounts of the company, and his re-election to the position requires the confirmation of the shareholders.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Managers.

Shanghai, 1st December, 1905.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

For year ending 31st October, 1905.	
Liabilities.	Tls.
Capital—Authorized 20,000 shares at Tls. 50—Tls. 1,000,000: subscribed 15,000 at Tls. 50	750,000.00
Jardine Matheson & Co.	43,000.00
Accounts payable	51,589.43
Uncollected dividends	2,144.00
Sundry creditors	2,330.75
Profit and loss	265,939.90
	Tls. 1,115,004.03
Assets.	Tls.
Property	138,669.85
Buildings	299,619.32
Plant	367,138.54
Water supply	4,220.81
Furniture	3,519.23
Mill stores	13,603.00
Cotton stock	77,350.11
Cotton and yarn in process	35,924.29
Yarn stock	148,066.97
Unexpected Fire Insurance premia	5,022.59
Rates and taxes	422.19
Accounts receivable	18,545.32
Advances against seed cotton	2,901.86
	Tls. 1,115,004.08

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
	Tls.
To interest account	18,205.80
" Fire Insurance	17,725.26
" Rates and taxes	2,627.01
" Repairs and renewals	19,675.32
" Director's fees	3,900.00
" Auditor's fees	250.00
" General managers' commission on net profits, 10 per cent. on Tls. 281,216.82	28,121.68
" Balance	265,939.90
	755,544.97
Cr.	
	Tls.
To Balance from last year	12,844.76
" Balance of Working account	342,585.21
" Transfer fees	115.00
	355,544.97

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 23rd November, 1905.

STORM SIGNALS IN INDO CHINA.

On and after the 1st January, 1906, a New Code of Storm Signals will come into force at the Semaphore Stations on the coast of French Indo China.

It is in all respects the same as the new Code which will on the same date be put into operation on the China Coast at the Signal Stations of the Chinese Imperial Customs, at Hongkong, Shanghai and Tsingtau, and which is already being used at Weihaiwei.

At the Semaphore stations on the coast of French Indo China, however, Series 2 has been supplemented with one, and Series 6 with eleven new phrases of local interest.

At these Stations, the weather signals will by day be distinguished by a Red Flag with a White Star flown from the mast head, and at night by a Red Light exhibited from the same place.

The following are the twelve phrases added to the Sicauei Code:

261 Vinh to Touron.	643 Centre of Annam.
621 N.E. of Tongking.	651 S.W. of Annam.
631 N. of Tongking.	652 S. of Annam.
632 N.W. of Tongking.	653 E. of CochinChina.
641 N. of Annam.	654 N. of CochinChina.
642 N. W. of Annam.	561 W. of CochinChina.

The semaphores are at: Haiphon, Touron, Padaran and Cape S. James.

THE CHINESE WIFE.

THE BETTER HALF AND THE SUBMERGED TENTH.

On Dec. 5 Captain D'Arcy Symonds, A. S. P. and Inspector Kirke, of the Singapore Police, acting on information received, went to a house and there, in an upper back room, found a Chinaman chained up like a dog with a collar round his neck. The unfortunate man was in a very emaciated condition and was covered with evil-looking sores. He was at once released by the Police but was so weak that he could not speak or explain his condition. A woman then came forward and said that the man was her husband. He had gone mad some time ago and as he was dangerous at times she had kept him tied up (for about ten days). This statement of the man having been kept prisoner some time was borne out by the condition of his wrists, which were badly rope-galled. Captain D'Arcy Symonds had him sent to the General Hospital for observation and arrested the wife on the charge of wrongfully restraining him.

A CURIOUS RUMOUR.

Little sparks make glowing fires, and so it was that the production of some imaginative brain gained currency and credence in Hongkong on Dec. 12. A rumour was abroad to the effect that the Russian cruisers in port, which are leaving on the 19th instant, had offered to take home any time expired men of the British Navy. It was suggested that this offer was made in order that the unruly Russian sailors might be kept in check by the appearance of bluejackets on board. A *Daily Press* reporter visited the Commodore with regard to the matter, and telling him the story as he had heard it asked if it could be verified. The reply was—"We know nothing whatever about it. The Harbour Master might be able to give you some information." Later, at the Harbour Office, our representative interviewed the Hon. Captain Barnes-Lawrence. On unfolding the story, the Harbour Master said it was the first he had heard of it. Such a thing was neither practical nor probable. The Admiral would not hear of such a suggestion, neither would the Admiralty allow it. In further conversation the Captain stated that he had not been on board the Russian cruisers, but had heard they were very dirty; that the officers were living in the lap of luxury, as it were, while the crew were just the reverse, and had little respect for their superiors.

SHANGHAI TRAMWAYS.

The following correspondence relating to the raising of the capital necessary for carrying out the terms of the concession is published:—

Shanghai, 18th November, 1905.

Sir,—We have this morning received from Messrs. Dent Bros. & Co. a telegram relating to the Tramway Agreement, of which the following is a translation:—

"With reference to Clauses 36 and 39 obtain written consent concession to be transferred to Shanghai Tramway Company, Limited; getting it is only a matter of form. Telegraph when done."

Assuming the Council will have no objection to granting the above, as the clauses referred to provide for sale, assignment, etc., to a British Company, we have to request you to kindly obtain for us the written consent asked for.—We are, sir, your obedient servant,

ALFRED DENT & Co.

W. E. Leveson, Esq.,
Acting Secretary, Municipal Council.

Council Room,

Shanghai, 21st November, 1905.

Gentlemen,—In reply to your note of the 18th instant, I am directed to inform you that, in the Council's opinion, the agreement recently concluded with Messrs. Bruce, Peebles and Co., Ltd., unmistakably contemplates the transfer of the benefits acquired thereunder to a public company formed and promoted in terms of Clauses 36 and 39.

Without knowledge of the Shanghai Tramway Company, Limited, or of the terms and conditions upon which the proposed transfer is to be made, the Council is unable to comply with your request, even as a matter of form.

I am directed to state that this refusal is not dictated by any desire to act otherwise than in complete harmony with the tramway concessionaires and in accordance with all the conditions of the agreement, but you will understand that the present request of your London house is not readily explicable to the Council, and that under the circumstances no other course remains but to await the receipt of the prospectus and other information in respect to the company which is about to be formed and floated.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. E. LEVESON,
Acting Secretary.

Messrs. Alfred Dent & Co.

Shanghai, 24th November, 1905.

Sir,—We are in receipt of your letter dated, the 21st inst., and thank you for same. It appears we have been under a wrong impression as to the requirements of our friends, and in order to show you what has passed in the interval, we think we cannot do better than send you translations of the telegrams that have passed. These you will find enclosed. We now understand that what is required is the Council's sanction for Messrs. Bruce, Peebles and Co., Ltd., to transfer their interest in the Tramway Concession to a private company, or syndicate, called the Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ltd., which has been formed for the purpose of raising funds for the construction of the tramway.

It is this company our friends desire to register, but, before doing so, they require the Council's sanction to transfer.

We enclose a copy of the proof prospectus referred to in the telegrams, in which we have made the alterations mentioned.

Requesting you to obtain from the Council as early as possible, their written consent to the transfer as desired.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,

ALFRED DENT & Co.

W. E. Leveson, Esq.,
Acting Secretary, Municipal Council.

TRANSLATION OF TELEGRAMS.

To Messrs. Dent Bros. & Co., dated
22d November, 1905.

Referring to your telegram dated 17th November Municipal Council states agreement contemplates transfer but while willing to your proposal cannot give written consent without full particulars. Shanghai Tramway Co.

From Messrs. Dent Bros. & Co., received
23rd November, 1905.

What particulars do you require in addition to proof prospectus?

To Messrs. Dent Bros. & Co., dated
23rd November, 1905.

Do you mean Construction Company if so proof prospectus will it be adopted present form.

From Messrs. Dent Bros. & Co., received
24th November, 1905.

Shanghai Tramway Co. referring to our letter 23th July name has been altered as desired (i.e., Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ltd.) prospectus of Company otherwise unchanged except modified in accordance with Council's two agreements. One Director added: We want to register at once but all we want is Council give their sanction as deposit has been received. The shares are all taken up. If this should not be sufficient for your requirements, it is unreasonable.

Shanghai, 29th November, 1905.

Sir,—With reference to our letter dated the 24th inst. on the subject of the transfer of the Tramway concession to the private company, or syndicate, called the Shanghai Electric Construction Company, Limited, we have received this morning a telegram from our London friends, asking us to inform the Council that this combination has been formed for the purpose of providing funds for the undertaking and that a transfer of interest to the underwriters is consequently necessary.

We are also requested to say that Messrs. Bruce, Peebles & Co. are quite willing to guarantee the Council that the aforesaid company, or syndicate, will carry out the agreement.

As the forming of such a syndicate is the ordinary way of conducting such operations at their outset, we trust the Council will now have any objection to sanctioning the transfer as requested.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,

ALFRED DENT & Co.

W. E. Leveson Esq.,
Acting Secretary, Municipal Council.

Council Room,

Shanghai, 30th November, 1905.

Gentlemen,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 24th and 29th inst. from which the Council understands that the request of your London house, as amended, is that the Council, in terms of Clauses 36 and 39 of its agreement with Messrs. Bruce, Peebles & Co., will transfer the concession to the Shanghai Electric Construction Company, Limited.

In reply thereto I am to state that the Council has no objection to the assignment by Messrs. Bruce, Peebles & Co. of the benefit of the agreement to this Company provided they will guarantee that such transfer shall not affect their obligations under the agreement for its due performance, and in particular guarantee that in the event of any public company being promoted to work the Tramway, the Shanghai public, including small investors, shall have an opportunity of subscribing for shares on the same footing as other members of the public.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. E. LEVESON

Acting Secretary.

Messrs. Alfred Dent & Co.

Shanghai, 1st December, 1905.

Sir,—We have to acknowledge the receipt of the Acting Secretary's letter dated yesterday in which we are informed that the Council has no objection to the assignment by Messrs. Bruce, Peebles Co. of the benefit of the agreement for the Tramway concession to the Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ltd., provided they will guarantee that such transfer shall not affect their obligations under the agreement for its due performance, and in particular guarantee that in the event of any public company being promoted to work the tramway, the Shanghai public, including small investors, shall have an opportunity of subscribing for shares on the same footing as other members of the public.

The above conditions were telegraphed to London yesterday, and we have pleasure in

saying, we have to-day received authority to confirm them.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,

ALFRED DENT & Co.

J. O. P. Bland, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

SHANGHAI MIXED COURT.

FIGHT BETWEEN POLICE AND RUNNERS.

EXTRAORDINARY INCIDENTS.

The N.-C. Daily News of Dec 9th reports:—

The tension between the Municipal authorities and those of the Mixed Court reached a climax yesterday morning, when an attempt to carry out contradictory orders from the Bench led unfortunately to an exchange of blows between the Municipal Police and the native runners.

There was a preliminary to yesterday's occurrence on Thursday, when the magistrate (Mr. Kuan), after making another futile protest against the presence of the police cadet in Court, and his supervision of the proper execution of the sentences of the Court, retaliated by sending a runner to the Central Police Station to see that they did their duty there properly. The selected runner spent a long and presumably rather tedious day in the courtyard of the Central Police Station, where he was allowed to remain unmolested. We understand, indeed, that a letter was sent from the Council to Mr. Kuan congratulating him on the interest he had suddenly taken in police administration and offering his representative every facility for gaining useful information.

Circumvented in this attempt in his policy of annoyance, a policy which Mr. Kuan has himself declared he has orders from the Taotai to pursue, it would seem that only the opportunity was wanted to force matters to a more serious issue. There are indications in fact that yesterday's disorder was premeditated. Early in the session the magistrate had a difference with the British Assessor (Mr. Twyman) over a case, which had, he said, been ordered for hearing on another date, and which he now refused to hear. The real trouble came, however, when two women and three men were put before the Court on charges of kidnapping girls from their homes in Szechuan. Fifteen young girls, who were to be the witnesses in the case, had been cared for by the Municipal police, and were brought to the Court in their charge. When the case came to be remanded the Assessor marked the charge sheet "Children to go to the Door of Hope pro tem" and instructed the police to take them there. Mr. Kuan, however, wished to keep the children in the Mixed Court cells, and gave his orders to the runners to take them away. The runners went to remove the children, but the police, under instructions from their cadet officer, Mr. Fenton, refused to give them up. There was some hustling and one of the runners struck Inspector Gibson in the eye. This started a general fight, in which the police were victorious and carried off the children and prisoners to their vans in the yard.

During the fight Mr. King, the assistant magistrate, was heard shouting from the Bench to the native municipal constables and detectives in Chinese, that they were Chinese subjects and if they resisted the magistrate's orders they would be severely punished. The native constables, however, appear to have considered their first duty lay to their employers.

The riot was sufficiently serious to induce Mr. Felton to go to the telephone to send a message for reinforcements. He had used the instrument an hour before and it was then all right, but now the mouthpiece was nowhere to be found. This may have been a coincidence merely. At all events it did not render the telephone unusable. The gates of the compound leading into the road were, however, shut and locked. The magistrate, assistant magistrate, and assessor were then standing in the middle of the Court. Mr. Fenton went to ask that the gate be opened to allow the vans to go out, whereupon the magistrate turned on him in a perfect fury, and told him that he might break the gates open and destroy the Court itself. "You may trample on my body," he added, and then strode away. The gates were subsequently opened, and the

children removed. The sitting of the Court had, of course, been abruptly suspended.

It had been arranged to set apart this morning for the trial of the case, but it is at least doubtful if it will proceed to-day.

So far as is known the only casualties in the fight were sustained by Insp. Gibson and a runner, both of whom were slightly damaged.

The incident caused great excitement yesterday both in foreign and native circles. We learn that a meeting of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce is called for this morning, and that several of the principal guilds are also to hold meetings to protest against the treatment sustained by the Chinese magistrates. A wild statement is being industriously circulated that Mr. King was hit over the head by one of the police.

IMPENDING ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

RETIREMENT OF SIR PAUL CHATER.

Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., who has represented the Justices of the Peace on the Legislative Council for nineteen years, has announced his intention to retire on the expiration of his present term—at the end of the present year—and a meeting of the Justices has been convened for the 21st inst. to appoint a successor. The term for which the representative of the Justices is appointed is six years, and when re-elected on the last occasion Sir Paul accepted with reluctance and in a short speech to the Justices intimated that he would definitely make way for new blood on the completion of the present term. That intention is now about to be fulfilled, and Sir Paul has proposed as his successor Mr. H. W. Slade (of Messrs. Gilman & Co.), Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The nomination is seconded by Mr. J. R. M. Smith. Mr. E. A. Hewett, superintendent of the P. and O. Company, and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, has also been nominated, Mr. A. G. Wood proposing and Mr. E. W. Mitchell seconding. We understand that other nominations are not improbable.

Since the above was written we learn that Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., has been requested to offer himself as a candidate for the position and has consented to nomination.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT BONDS.

THE NEW FOREIGN ISSUE.

The issue is officially announced by Imperial Ordinance No. 241 of the new 4-per-cent. foreign bonds to the amount of £50,000,000, or Yen 500,000,000, the object of the issue being the consolidation of the national debt partly by the redemption of the 6-per-cent. bonds. It is stated that half the amount will be issued at 90 and the syndicate's commission will be £2, so that the amount to be received by the Government will be £88 per £100. The object of this issue is the exchange or redemption of the foreign bonds issued in May and November of last year for £22,000,000, and bearing 6 per cent. interest.

In case of 6-per-cent. bonds being exchanged for 4-per-cent., payment will be made of the balance in cash. The time and price of the issue of the balance of £25,000,000 will be determined by the Minister for Finance.

The contract for the new issue was signed on the 23rd inst. and approved by the Emperor on the following day. The first issue of £25,000,000 for consolidation of the national debt was to be placed on the European market yesterday.

The issuing price of foreign bonds since last year are compared as follows:—

First—6 per cent. Issued at 93½; 2½ per cent. commission; actual value received, 90.

Second—6 per cent. Issued at 90½; Commission, 3½; actual amount received, 86½.

Third and Fourth.—4½ per cent. Issued at 90; Commission, 3½; actual amount received, 86½.

Sixth (the new bonds).—4 per cent. Issued at 90; commission, 2 per cent; actual amount to be received, 88.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 2nd December, 1905.—Long-reels.—Under the influence of Exchange, which has been rising, local values have dropped to the lowest level since the beginning of the season; according to the high prices paid for 4th, 5th and 6th crop cocoons. Chinese holders have to bear heavy losses. The last few days the market has been gradually improving, with more demand, especially for Fries 9 11, 10/12, 18/22, and "Natives" 11/13, 13/15 and 14/18. From sales made we quote: \$850-\$830 Filatures le. ordre 9/11; On Wo Hing 11 and Lai Fung Lun 9/11 at \$820; Wing Po Cheong 10/12 from \$830-\$800; Po King Cheong 10/12 at \$800; Tsung Wai Hang 13/15 at \$795; Leun Fat Cheong 18/12 and Wai King Wo 18/22 at \$705; Yee Wo Cheong from \$715-\$690; Best 3me, ordre 11/13, 13/15, 14/18 from \$690 to \$665. Short-reels.—The demand for America has been rather quiet during the fortnight both for Filatures and Rereels, while European buyers have been interested in Fils. Extra Extra A and Extra Extra B 14/16. Waste Silk.—A good current business has prevailed during the period under review, the "Extra selected unopened" being most in favour; at the close holders are reluctant to sell so freely and are asking higher prices. Stock of Silk in Canton: 4,200 bales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—A further decline in prices is reported, market being weak.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.80 to \$8.85 per c.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.30 to 7.35 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	6.50 to 6.55 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.90 to 5.95 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.40 to 8.45 "
Do. " 2, White.....	7.20 to 7.25 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	6.25 to 6.30 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.70 to 5.75 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	11.00 to 11.05 "
Shekloong	10.05 to 10.10 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—A few demands having come forward the prices are declining.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.80 to \$2.85
" Round, good quality.....	3.60 to 3.65
" Long.....	3.70 to 3.75
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.90 to 2.95
" Garden. " No. 1.....	3.75 to 3.80
" White.....	4.00 to 4.05
" Fine Cargo	4.20 to 4.25

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 14th December.

Quotations are:— Allow'ce net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1030 to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1060 to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1110 to — do.
Malwa V. Old.....	\$1180 to — do.
Persian fine quality	\$1150 to — do.
Persian extra fine.....	\$1200 to — do.
Patna New	\$990 to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$955 to — do.
Benares New	\$945 to — do.
Benares Old	\$920 to — do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of Dec. 14th, state that 24 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 102,613 tons of coal. Since December 1st 10 steamers have arrived with a total of 36,800 tons of coal. Quotations:—

Cardiff.....	\$15.00 \$16.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$10.00 \$11.00 ex-ship, steady.
Yubari Lump.....	\$12.00 nominal.
Milki Lump	\$11.00 to \$12.00 steady.
Moji Lump.....	\$9.50 to \$10.00 ex-ship steady.
Akaike Lump.....	\$10.00 to \$10.50 steady.
Bengal.....	\$8.75 to \$ 9.25 steady.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—No business to report. Stock about 4,000 bales.

Bombay.....	\$18.00 to \$19.00 per pol.
Bengal (New), Rangoon } and Dacca	18.00 to 23.00 "
Shanghai and Japan.....	26.00 to 27.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo	26.00 to 27.00 "

YARN.

Mr. Edujee, in his Report dated Hongkong 15th December, says:—As previously mentioned, the sharp rise in American cotton towards the close of last mail, had restored confidence amongst holders, and checked the downward course of the market. Simultaneously with this improvement, exchange commenced to decline and encouraged our large operators to reappear in the market. Brisk buying then followed, and in the course of two or three days close upon 15,000 bales of every grade and count, both spot and to arrive, changed hands prices showing an advance of \$2 to \$4 per bale. Under ordinary circumstances a further appreciation in values would have taken place, but importers made the most of the demand while it lasted, and have met buyers freely. The above purchases have been entirely speculative, as at the moment there is nothing doing in the country, but the outlook warrants the action of the speculators. During the late period of depression stocks, in the interior, have run very low, and with an abundant yield of the new rice crop there is a fair future for the article. Latterly dealers have satisfied their requirements and are not buying, and the market closes quiet.

Sales during the interval aggregate 14,670 bales, arrivals amount to 20,288, and stocks estimated at 78,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—Lower prices have induced a considerable business in these threads and we hear of the sale of 2,700 bales No. 16s at \$104, and 1,100 bales No. 12s at \$107½.

Japanese Yarn:—The only business of the fortnight has been the sale of a parcel of 50 bales No. 16s at \$132.

Raw Cotton:—Indian descriptions continue very dull and sales of only 370 bales Superfine Bengal at from \$22½ to \$20 are reported. About 130 bales Thoongchow have changed hands at \$25½ to \$24. Unsold stock 2,500 bales Indian, 200 Chinese. Quotations are \$20 to \$23 Bengal and \$23 to \$26 China cotton.

Exchange on India, after touching Rs. 151 for T/T and Rs. 151½ for Post, closes steady to-day at Rs. 153½ and Rs. 153½, respectively. On Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 100.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 9th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Market active with a fair demand, both real and speculative, total sales 9,250 bales, rise in values 1 to 3 Taels, and unsold stock 70,000 bales.

Japanese:—Have attracted more attention, total sales 6,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 90 to 97½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 102½ to 104, prices ruling steady to firm.

Local:—No new business is reported, the mills being fully engaged over their forward contracts.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai 7th December, 1905, states:—A question of most vital importance to the import trade of China is undoubtedly the establishment of a proper monetary system, and the promise of it was one of the most important clauses in the Protocol signed by the representatives of Great Britain and China after the Boxer troubles. How have the terms of that Protocol been carried out? China has been allowed to enforce on Foreign trade just those clauses that have suited her and added to her revenue, but the rest have been quietly permitted to remain in abeyance, so that the Foreigner and his trade are in a much worse position than they were before. The promised and stipulated reform of the coinage system, which was intended to put China on the same monetary basis with the rest of the civilised world, has resulted in an indiscriminate issue from numerous provincial mints of a coinage that is only current in its parent locality, and has unquestionably

brought about confusion to all branches of trade. Now this is to be superseded by the coinage of an entirely new coin, the Kuping Tael, which, with its subdivisions, cannot fail to be of interest to those engaged in this trade, and prepare them for further dislocations of it. The market generally has been much perturbed by the gambling antics that have marked the course of exchange during the interval we have under review. It used to be possible to judge to some extent by the course of the London Silver market, coupled with what was actually doing in both the import and export trades, what rates might be expected; but now-a-days it is quite impossible to follow the intricate ramifications that go towards the manipulation of Foreign exchanges. It may safely be concluded that the native operators in this branch of the trade have added further during the interval to the complicated tangle they were already in. The prescience, judgment, or whatever you choose to call it, that has been shown by the majority of them during the last twelve months seems to have been merely playing into the hands of the exchange banks. The fluctuations may have had the effect of delaying the expected revival that was to take place, but that is doubtful, and it looks pretty certain now that trade for the season is finished. All our enquiries have failed to elicit any fresh transactions either from stocks or to arrive, the market continuing in a state of utter stagnation. Direct shipments to the Northern Ports are at an end. Small supplies may go up during the winter by way of Ching-wan-tao, but the little interest shown lately does not promise much. A disagreeable element is apparently being introduced into the Newchwang trade by a certain firm that has recently opened a house there, namely the direct importation of American domestics on the same pernicious credit system as prevails in Tientsin. The natives here who are interested in that trade are not at all pleased, and are endeavouring to take some concerted action in the matter. It is so obviously detrimental to the whole trade that it is hoped the Foreign banks will not assist in financing the transactions, and thus avoid injury to the business of their constituents here. The River markets are in as bad a state as ever, but the report of a big financial crash in Hankow last week, that was expected to create havoc to this trade there, was greatly exaggerated. The native hong in question was not interested in piece goods; the amount of the liabilities was only Tls. 350,000, sixty-five per cent. of which was secured and the balance has been arranged. All the same there is no noticeable improvement in the demand for goods either there or at the other ports. There is some enquiry for Szechuen, but orders coming down were based on a 2/11 exchange. The trade with Corea has come to an absolute standstill, and it remains to be seen how it will develop in future under the new regime; but it looks exceedingly doubtful if it will redound to the benefit of Manchester. Meanwhile the financial position, consequent on the change of currency, and the impending enhancement of the Customs Tariff are some of the obstacles that have to be faced. The Manchester market is exceedingly strong and quite precludes all forward transactions. Under the existing circumstances nothing could be better for this market, and all operators here would be content to see a continuance of the rise and a complete cessation of buying for some months to come. Cotton promises to assist towards that end. The last Liverpool quotations were 6.35d. for Mid-American and 8 1/4d. for Egyptian, while New York wires 12.57 cents for July option. This has been brought about by the publication of the official estimate of the crop as 10,167,818 bales. Piece Goods.—The latter half of this year has been terribly disappointing; first the boycott, next the flood, and the very unwelcome rise in exchange. The market at present is dull, clearances are poor, there is no enquiry for stock, and forward business is more impossible than ever. Stocks continue to accumulate and every one is puzzled to know where the fresh arrivals are to be stored. The export from Manchester last month was 41,000,000 yards of plain Cottons alone, while fancy goods now make a big item. The only direct transactions brought to our notice are the Public Auctions. As usual prices have been as steady, perhaps, as could be expected with the uncertain and wobbly exchange, and do not call for any special comment. Szechuen is said to have taken nearly 1,000 bales of Manchester goods from second hands during the interval, 12 lbs. 36 inch grey shirtings forming a goodly proportion of the total. Cotton Yarn.—Indian.—Although the business reported during the interval only amounts to 3,570 bales of 81 counts from first hands the total transactions must have been quite as much again, as native

holders of contract cargo have also been ready sellers. The purchases are chiefly for Tientsin and Szechuen, Kinkiang taking the intermediate counts. The market is supposed to be up two Taels a bale, but there is still a great deal of irregularity about the prices.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$90.00 to \$128.00	
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	140.00 to 160.00	
" 22 to 24, ...	160.00 to 165.00	
" 28 to 32, ...	167.50 to 175.00	
" 38 to 42, ...	180.00 to 190.00	
Reported sales 18,000 bales.		

COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	\$2.20 to \$2.25	
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40	
8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 4.00	
9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.30	
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 3.00	
58 to 60 "	3.10 to 3.60	
61 to 66 "	3.80 to 5.40	
Fine 6.10 to 8.00		
Book-folds 5.30 to 8.10		
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.00	
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y	2.20 to 2.30	
7 lbs. (32 ") "	2.70 to 3.00	
6 lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	2.25 to 2.70	
7 lbs. (32 ") "	2.90 to 3.20	
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	3.25 to 3.80	
Drills, English—40 yds. 13 1/4 " to 14 lbs.	5.10 to 8.00	

FANCY COTTONS—		
Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/4 to 3 lbs.	1.75 to 3.70	
Brocades—Dyed 0.13 to 0.15		per yard
Chintzes—Assorted 0.09 to 0.30		
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.23 to 0.45		
Velveteens—18 in. 0.21 to 0.25		

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk		per dozen
0.52 to 1.00		
WOOLLENS—		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.63 to 2.00	
German — to —		
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths	1.20 to 3.00	
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs.		per piece
Assorted 7.75 to 8.90		
" 7.90 to 9.05		
Camlets—Assorted 20.00 to 31.00		
Assorted 18.00 to 21.00		
Orleans—Plain, 31 in. — to —		
Blankets—5 to 12 lbs.		per lb.
0.60 to 1.50		

METALS—		per picul.
Iron—Nail Rod 4.20 to —		
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.10 to —	
Swedish Bar 4.20 to —		
Small Round Rod 4.50 to —		
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in. 6.30 to —		
Wire, 16/25 oz. 9.50 to —		
Wire Rope, Old 3.00 to —		
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.80 to —	
Australian 10.80 to —		
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	42.00 to —	
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	42.00 to —	
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	42.00 to —	
Composition Nails 61.00 to —		
Japan Copper, Slabs 38.50 to —		
Tin 87.00 to —		

Tin-Plates		per box
6.40 to —		
Steel 1/2 to 1		per cwt. case
5.80 to —		
Quicksilver		per picul
120.00 to —		
Window Glass		per box
5.00 to —		

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, Dec. 12th, 1905.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

		Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 36.75	
Do. Seconds	32.25	
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	17.50	
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white color	59.00	
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	8.00	
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	11.50	
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	11.00	

		Per picul.
Green China Grass, Szechuen	12.00	
Jute	4.25	
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	9.00	
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	8.70	
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	8.00	
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	9.00	
Animal Tallow	10.00	
Gallnuts, usual shape	16.50	
Do. Plum do.	18.50	
Tobacco, Tingchow	9.00	
Do. Wungkong	10.00	
Black Bristles	(nom.)	
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	"	
" " Wild Duck	"	
Turneric	"	
Sesamum Seed	3.70	
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.50	
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	(nom.)	
Wood Oil	9.70	
Tea Oil	10.00	

Per steamer *Prinz Regent Luitpold*, sailed on 6th December. For Aden:—750 bags sugar, 40 cases cassia, 15 bundles galangal. For Alexandrette:—40 cases cassia. For Smyrna:—200 cases cassia. For Venice:—100 cases cassia. For Naples:—50 bales waste silk. For Genoa:—365 bales raw silk, 200 boxes cassia. For Antwerp:—200 bales bamboo, 16 bales feathers, 5 cases human hair. For Antwerp or Hamburg or London:—25 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—676 rolls matting. For Rotterdam:—20 rolls matting. For Bremen:—164 rolls matting. For Hamburg:—84 bales feathers, 77 half-chests tea, 40 rolls matting, 34 cases blackwoodware, 24 cases chinaware, 10 boxes bristles, 9 cases hats, 5 cases paper, 4 boxes feathers. For Copenhagen:—184 bales feathers, 100 cases cassia, 1 roll matting.

Per steamer *Deucalion*, for London, Amsterdam and Antwerp, sailed on 6th December. For Port Said:—5 cases nutmegs, 50 cases cassia. For Marseilles:—4 bales canes. For London:—50 bales waste silk, 3 cases silks piece goods, 365 boxes tea, 687 cases shells, 22 packages shells, 75 boxes camphor, 325 casks ginger, 320 casks soy, 47 packages effects and sundries, 286 packages merchandise, 77 casks wood oil, 56 cases ginger, 619 bales canes, 90 rolls mats. For London or Glasgow:—200 casks ginger. For London or Glasgow or Dundee:—250 cases ginger. For London or Hamburg:—20 cases essential oil, 95 bales canes. For Dundee:—100 casks ginger, 40 bales mats. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For London or Continent:—5 cases human hair, 34 cases paper, 595 bales feathers, 100 bales galangal, 47 bales canes. For Copenhagen:—24 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—300 casks ginger, 175 bales canes. For Amsterdam or Rotterdam:—32 cases chinaware. For Rotterdam:—3 packages effects etc., 34 rolls matting. For Antwerp:—100 bales split bamboo, 500 packages merchandise, 73 bales canes.

Per M. M. steamer *Tonkin*, sailed on 12th Dec. For Marseilles:—625 bales raw silk, 820 bales waste silk, 3 cases silk piece goods, 88 packages human hair, 5 packages feathers, 15 cases hats, 1 bale matting, 1 package silverware, 1 case cigars, 2 cases provisions. For Lyons:—851 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—30 bales raw silk. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For Barcelona:—18 cases silk piece goods. For London:—1 piece tin, 5 cases cigars. For Constantinople:—14 packages tea.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 15th December

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0 1/2
ON LONDON.—	
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	258 1/2
Credits 4 months' sight	263
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	210
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	50 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	51
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	153 1/2
Bank, on demand	153 1/2

ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	153½
Bank, on demand	153½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	100
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	101
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	6½ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	123½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ..	\$9.6½
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$51.60
BAR SILVER, per oz.	1½

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th December, 1905. — The unequal struggle between a rising sterling exchange, tight money, and the stock market still continues, and rates generally are adversely affected. In the early part of the week, when exchange looked like weakening, a small sound investment business was induced, but the temporary improvement was very short lived, and with higher quotations for silver, rates again had to succumb, and we have finally to report a general all-round drop which has been assisted by a decided weakness in the Shanghai market.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, after small sales at \$880, were negotiated at \$875, and later at \$870, the market closing with sellers at the latter rate. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions, after sales at the reduced rate of \$732, have further declined to \$720 with sales and further sellers at the latter rate. China Traders have ruled fairly steady at \$90 but a few small sellers rule the market at time of closing. Cantons have fallen to \$325 without business. Yangtszes and North Chinas unchanged and without any local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—No change or business to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands in small lots at \$25, the market however closes weak with no further buyers over \$24½. Indo-Chinas have been placed at \$93 for the settlement on the 29th inst., but close weaker at \$92. Shell Transports have declined to 24s. 6d. on the report of a 1s. dividend. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

MINING.—Raubs are enquired for at \$3.50 to \$3.75.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found small buyers at \$164, but notwithstanding a report of more work at the Docks the market closes weak at \$164. Kowloon Wharves have been placed at \$108 and \$108½, closing steady at the latter rate. Farnhams have declined in Shanghai to Tls. 129 and Hongkew Wharves to Tls. 205.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been placed in small lots at \$125 and Hotels at \$150, both stocks closing with sellers. Humphreys have found buyers at \$12, and more could be obtained at that rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

COTTON.—Hongkongs remain unchanged with sellers and no business at \$14, quotations for Ewos and Internationals come in lower from Shanghai at Tls. 55 and Tls. 40.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Alhambra and Philippines are enquired for at quotations, and small sales are reported. Fenwicks have changed hands at \$25 (old). Green Islands at \$28½, and China Light and Powers at \$9. Watsons are wanted at \$12½, but none appear to be available. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100, buyers
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	\$870, sellers
National B. of China	£5	London, £92.10
		\$38, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$9, sales
China Provident	\$10	\$9½
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.	Tls. 50	Tls. 50
Hongkong	\$10	\$14, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 60
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 250
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 130
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$108, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$163, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$17
S'hai & H. Wharf.	Tls. 100	Tls. 205
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$25, sales & buy.
		\$24½
G. Island Cement.	\$10	\$28½, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas.	£10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric.	\$10	\$15, buyers
Do. New	\$10	\$14½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways.	\$100	\$215
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$150, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$235
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$152
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$13, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$325, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers
North China	£5	Tls. 90
Union	\$100	\$720, sellers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$170
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$125, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122, sales
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18/10	\$3½, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5, sales & buyers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$205, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$25, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$20, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$24½
Indo-China S.N. Co.	£10	\$92
Shell Transport Co.	£1	24/6, sellers
Do. Preference	£10	28. 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32
Do. New	\$5	\$23, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam LaundCo.	\$5	\$7, sellers
Do.	\$5	\$6½, seller
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$6, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12½, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, sales
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 7th December, 1905, states:— Business has not been very brisk since our last issue, but we have, however, to report a rise and fall in Langkats and a special advance in Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. Shares. There is a heavy settlement ahead for the end of the year, but operators are already commencing to adjust their accounts. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2s. 10½d. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have dropped further since our last, and a single transaction is reported at \$882.50. Shares can be obtained at \$880 now; the London quotation is £93.10. Marine & Fire Insurance.—China Traders have been dealt in at \$88 ex. 71. Yangtsze Insurance Company have sellers at \$170. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have remained steady all the week, and transactions are reported at Tls. 67 for December, and Tls. 70 and 69½ for March. There is but little business doing in this stock. Shanghai Tugs at Tls. 54. No other business reported under this heading. Docks & Wharves.—During the early part of the week the market became very firm and from Tls. 133 the price rose to Tls. 140 for December, with sales for March at Tls. 143½. A weakness set in yesterday and we close with sellers at Tls. 138 and 143½ for March. In this stock also there has hardly been any business to speak of during the week. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are quoted in Hongkong at \$165 buyers. Yangtsze Wharf Co. have been placed at Tls. 190 cash. Sugar.—There are sellers of Peraks at Tls. 68. Mining.—A single transaction in Weihaiwei Golds has taken place at \$12. Land.—Shanghai Lands have changed hands at Tls. 122. No other business reported. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons have sagged somewhat during the week and close with sellers for December at Tls. 60. Laou Kung Mows have sellers at Tls. 60 for December. China Flour has been placed at Tls. 80 for cash. Langkats. We opened at Tls. 214 and 215 for December and Tls. 227½ for March. On the 2nd a sudden demand for shares carried the rate with one jump to Tls. 220 for December. Buyers coming in to cover December sales forced the market again up to Tls. 225 December, when as sudden a reaction set in and a drop of Tls. 5 took place. We close with sellers at Tls. 220 and the last rate reported for March was Tls. 232½. Anglo-German Brewery. There are shares on the market for sale. Stores and Hotels.—Central Stores (new issue) have been placed at \$7½. Astor House have changed hands at \$27 and \$28. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Horse Bazaar. There are sellers at Tls. 70. Shanghai Mercury. A few shares are on the market at Tls. 50. Telephones have been placed at Tls. 54 and there are a few sellers. Dallas Horse Repository at Tls. 40. Loans and Debentures.—A small lot of Municipal 6 per cent. debentures changed hands at Tls. 97. There are sellers of large lots at this rate. Astor House 8 per cent. debentures have changed hands at Tls. 140, and more shares could be placed at this rate.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 15th December.—The freight market remains about the same as last reported. From Saigon to Philippines, a small carrier has been closed at 27 cents per picul; to Hongkong, no inquiry. From North Coast Java to Hongkong and Japan, nothing doing. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$1.40; to Swatow, \$1.75 per ton. From Hongay to this, \$1.40 per ton; to Canton, \$1.75.

The following are the settlements:—

Hydra—British steamer, 2,628 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.

Vorwars—German steamer, 643 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (20,000 piculs), 27 cents per picul.

Dr. Hans Jurg Kiaer—Norwegian steamer, 691 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$3.00 lump sum.

Melene Mensell—German steamer, 984 tons, Karatsu to Chefoo, \$2.50 per ton.

Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Shanghai to Vladivostok, private terms.

FREIGHT.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland).—Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo Tals 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

December—

ARRIVALS.

- 10, Ambria, German str., from Hamburg.
- 10, Holstein, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 10, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Gregory Apar, British str., from Calcutta.
- 11, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 11, Lothian, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Minnesota, British str., from Seattle.
- 11, Palawan, British str., from London.
- 11, Progress, German str., from Canton.
- 11, Tonkin, French str., from Yokohama.
- 11, Willehad, German str., from Kobe.
- 11, Wisconsin, U.S. battleship, from Manila.
- 11, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 12, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Hongay.
- 12, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
- 12, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 12, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.
- 12, Paoting, British str., from Wuhu.
- 12, Rajaburi, German str., from Anghin.
- 12, Tingssang, British str., from Canton.
- 13, Aragonia, German str., from Moji.
- 13, Carl Menzell, German str., from Chefoo.
- 13, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 13, Dunera, British trspt., from Southampton.
- 13, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 13, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Palermo, British str., from Kobe.
- 13, Simla, British 4-m. barque, from Cardiff.
- 13, Stentor, British str., from Liverpool.
- 13, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., from Amoy.
- 14, Delta, British str., from Bombay.
- 14, Haiman, British str., from Swatow.
- 14, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Ismaila, British str., from Yokohama.
- 14, Kampot, Fr. str., from Kwangchauwan.
- 14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 14, Shaohsing, British str., from Canton.
- 14, Simla, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Stettin, British str., from Manila.
- 14, Talisman, Norwegian str., from Java.

December—

DEPARTURES.

- 11, Andromeda, British cruiser, for Mira Bay.
- 11, Ghazee, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 11, Holstein, German str., for Canton.
- 11, Idomenus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
- 11, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
- 11, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 12, C. Diederichson, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
- 12, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Haiman, British str., for Swatow.
- 12, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 12, Loosok, German str., for Hoihow.
- 12, Norden, Norwegian str., for Moji.
- 12, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.
- 12, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 12, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
- 12, Wosang, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Ambria, German str., for Yokohama.
- 13, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
- 13, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 13, Benavon, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 13, Clavering, British str., for Calcutta.
- 13, Emma Luyken, German str., for Canton.
- 13, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
- 13, Glenturret, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Mercedes, British trspt., for Weihaiwei.
- 13, Montrose, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Palawan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Profit, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 13, Raleigh, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.
- 13, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Willehad, German str., for Sydney.
- 14, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 14, Fooching, British str., for Wuhu.
- 14, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 14, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
- 14, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 14, Progress, German str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Stentor, British str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Stettin, British str., for Canton.
- 14, Telemaabus, British str., for Saigon.
- 14, Tungus, Norwegian str., for Tsintao.
- 14, Victoria, Chinese str., for Chefoo.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Australian*, from Australia, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Miss Wall, Mr. and Mrs. King, Mrs. Case, Messrs. L. Jones, Sheridan,

Dr. Moraes, Mrs. A. Rodgues and Sergeant Varado; for Japan, Mr. E. Bibby, Mrs. Mead, Mr. and Mrs. Seppalt, Miss L. Paul, Messrs. K. Young, Lucas and Kawachi.

Per *Shaohsing*, from Shanghai, Mr. Grimbale.

Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong from Kobe, Messrs. Ikiki, Shimada, Fukusimi, Miss Ikiti, Mrs. Shimada, Messrs. H. Wallyboy, Morris, Dantracourt, Tombeau, Hutchison, Mr. and Mrs. Peters, Mr. and Miss North, Messrs. Hillier, Williamson and Lloyd; from Yokohama, Messrs. T. and G. Gosman, Messrs. Danki and Albert Kopp; from Shanghai, Messrs. Bastien, Rahentull, Mandl, Kemper, M. Lawy, Revs. Sparda and Pillot, Messrs. Demoulain, B. C. Avasia, Mrs. Green and daughter, Messrs. T. Ernd and Kadore; for Saigon from Yokohama, Mr. Frey; from Kobe, Miss Tora Tobara; from Shanghai, Miss Celina; for Singapore from Kobe, Mr. K. Uchida, Mrs. K. Obama, Messrs. Antonio M. Santos, Martis, Antonio V., Isaki Ferante, Baptista, P. Martin, Jon Boy, G. Mohamed, Daniel Carobat and J. R. Piris; from Shanghai, Messrs. T. de Souza, S. Chess, Shilaiko, Miss Mary, Mr. Isaac, Mr. and Mrs. Ikimoto, Messrs. Enamoto, Ueno, Moregani, Okayama, Okedo, Sakanof; for Colombo from Shanghai, Messrs. H. A. Zaghielf, D. Y. Doctor, J. B. Kharas, Setua, Mrs. Zama Zanioka, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Cohen; for Bombay from Kobe, Mr. K. Hayashi; from Shanghai, Mr. B. Madon; for Port Said from Kobe, Messrs. Barskoff and Solobonichkoff; from Shanghai, Messrs. Mirza Mehdi Djaroff, Gianlato Djaroff, Comte and Mrs. Iwanoff, Messrs. Crantikoff, Gabriel Glaize, Basileff and Ivanchenko.

Per *Palawan*, for Hongkong from London, Mr. and Mrs. Haynes and 3 children, Miss Pilsworth, Miss Tailens, Mr. R. J. Macrowan, Miss Macgowan, Mrs. and Miss Cleveland, Mrs. Ramsay and 3 children, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Miss E. M. Godfrey, Mr. F. M. Wright, Lieut. R. H. G. Spearman, Engr. Lieut. W. F. Mitchell, Surg. J. H. P. Greenhalgh, Messrs. J. S. Larner, F. Moon, J. F. Thomas, J. W. Drew, Granville, C. Hayter, H. J. Edwards, J. McLean, F. Kelly, J. Rivett, Rev. A. D. Stewart, Miss Stewart and Mr. E. B. Reed; from Singapore, Lieut. W. J. S. Green, Sister T. Barendale, Messrs. Harrison Boyd and W. A. Bradley; for Manila from London, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay and 2 children, and Miss Caffley; for Shanghai from London, Messrs. Dan McLean, Geo. McLean, H. Armour, J. A. Greenfield and Weekes, Mr. and Mrs. Montrie, Misses E. and L. Montrie, Mr. S. Montrie, Mrs. Graham and 2 children, Messrs. E. S. Little, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. F. rness and infant, Mrs. Dare and child, Mrs. Feast, Mr. and Mrs. F. Harrold and infant, Mrs. F. W. Hill and child; from Penang, Mr. W. D. Graham; for Yokohama from London, Rev. and Mrs. S. B. Woods and 2 children, Mrs. Chusae, Miss F. M. Holiday, Mr. H. O. Erlkington and Mrs. Wightwick.

Per *Minnesota*, from Seattle, &c., Mrs. and Miss Isen, Mrs. D. E. Dismukes, Miss Dismukes, Mrs. W. H. Lane, Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lane, Capt. and Mrs. Franklin Drake, Miss L. A. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Averill, Miss Elva Carriek, Mr. R. W. Donaldson, Miss M. Cox, Mrs. W. S. Davidson, Messrs. C. M. Sparrow, W. Ehrhardt, A. Earlschiffe, W. B. Alcock, Mr. and Mrs. G. Murray Bain, Mr. H. M. Bain, Major Dopping Heppenstall, Mr. Isaac Carver, Miss M. M. Larsh, Mr. Walter Seal, Mrs. J. E. Springer, Messrs. J. T. Clarke, A. L. Smith, C. J. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Foss, Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Pace, Messrs. Francis J. Brown, P. H. Ashmead, Mr. and Mrs. Botelho, Mr. P. A. Lacon, Mrs. David Cristy, Mr. E. S. Joseph, Mrs. E. L. Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. G. K. H. Brutton, Miss Brutton, Mrs. Hall Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Keith, Mrs. A. G. Reynolds, Messrs. Reynolds, G. A. Benedict, T. D. Newell, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Wheate, Master Stanley Wheate, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kemp, Mrs. Gordon, Messrs. M. Limemia, E. Kadoorie, C. B. Curtis, Kent and Mrs. Y. Iwanago.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Rev. H. C. Stuntz, Lieut. J. R. Defrees, Mrs., Miss and Master Stuntz, Mr. G. D. Osgood, Miss Hopun, Mrs. Osgood, Mrs. T. J. Rivers, Mr. Frank Thornton, Mrs. Cook and children, Messrs. C. H. Falcon, G. H. Butler, W. T. Heroy, Mr. and Mrs. H. Shoem, Messrs. W. T. Davis and D. M. Sibead.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. G. Steiner and Miss Figueiredo; from Colombo, Rev. Bibollet; from Batavia, Miss Meyenberg, Messrs. dos Remedios, W. Walter, C. Merville, E. Sato and Bert; from Saigon, Mrs. Bert, Miss Tarbouriech, Mrs. O. Achard, Mrs. C. Scheidel, Messrs. Moulin, Joseph Laurent and A. Jansen; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Berthoz, Tichwede, Bertrand, Paldi, Rev. Froc, Messrs. Kadomski, Lanron, Mr. and Mrs. Le Moullec, Messrs. Philippas, Le Moullec, Bois, Grosjean, Bertolletti, Danguillon and Lafaurie; from Colombo, Mr. Zasuz; from Singapore, Messrs. Ch. W. Curi, Schwuring, Mr. and Mrs. Lehaya; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mrs. Malata, Messrs. W. Church and W. Prat; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Mrs. Liebert, Messrs. Eissler, Hunter-Campbell, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Minamassa, Miss Liebert, Messrs. Friedlander, Pierre Feire, Liebert, Miss Daron, Messrs. Enard, Loudin, Mr. and Mrs. Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. Cudenet.

Per *Haiching*, from Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. Puttipha, Dr. Smith, Messrs. Waller and Freaker.

Per *Daijin Maru*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. Rose, Edwards and Browne.

Per *Meefoo*, from Shanghai, Mr. Hellstrand.

Per *Haiman*, from Swatow, Mrs. Patey and Mr. Cloney.

Per *Simla*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Messrs. Logan and Chalkley, Capt. Hawkins, Lieuts. Harvey and Reilly, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan, Miss and Master Bryan, Mr. Otto, Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, Master Snyder, Messrs. Cook, Wetherby, Butterworth, Claudel, Lee, Hewitt, Mrs. Kavaros, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Gubbay, Mr. and Mrs. Clark and Mr. Dashby; for Singapore, Messrs. Longstaff and Vigar; for Bombay, Miss Robinson; for Marseilles, Sir John Jordan, Messrs. Ferguson and Blackstone and Dr. Jackson; for London, Mr. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Hartt, Mrs. Brown and infant, Miss Morrison, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Williams.

DEPARTED.

Per *Tonkin*, for Saigon, Messrs. Gelin, Thai Den, Du Anhean and L. Clant Llobet; for Singapore, Messrs. Theodore Hostetter, A. F. H. Gibbs, C. F. David, Wm. Small, I. Peche, Mr. and Mrs. Morton Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Courdeville, and Miss Greta Hostetter; for Batavia, Messrs. H. Edye, J. A. Edye and Theo Wa jen; for Bombay, Messrs. Bejonjee, Simons Rafe and H. S. Kavarana; for Marseilles, Messrs. J. Chalmers, Jose Antonio da Cunha, A. H. Greig, Manuel Joao, John Anderson and Juevin, Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, Miss MacLeod, Messrs. A. Macwillie, M. Briquet, Mr. and Mrs. Lagasrue, Messrs. Dreyfus and E. H. Fitzgerald.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai, Mr. G. Marens, Lieut. Knesebeck, Messrs. J. B. Gomes, Jr., Th. Hansen, Alof Nelsen, Mrs. Simon, Mrs. Cara Russ, Mr. Lazar Labovitch, Mrs. M. Schneider and Mrs. D. Schneider.

Per *Willehad* for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. North, Messrs. John Ross, F. Callan, Miss L. M. Cox; for Melbourne, Mrs. E. Murray.

Per *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, &c., Messrs. F. T. Colby, M. Woodley, E. R. Pollock, Mrs. G. S. Boggs, Lieut. and Mrs. C. L. Early, Messrs. A. F. Corwill, J. E. Bingham, F. Marble H. Rose, Jack E. Ellis, Sons, J. L. Ago, Mr. Charles Chin, Miss A. Radley, Messrs. M. Walker, Messrs. A. N. Ebrahim, D. E. Brown and W. H. Dauvers.

TO DEPART.

Per *Simla*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. Alcock; for Penang, Miss Larsh, Rev. and Mrs. Davenport; for Colombo, Mr. W. R. Donaldson; for Bombay, Major Sexton, Messrs. Rahimtoola and Valleybhoy; for Port Said, Mr. E. W. Howe, Misses M. Howe, Larned and Phelps; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Maltman, Messrs. Porter, E. Sargent, H. H. Wheelless, H. W. McMillan, A. J. Cochran, C. H. Breck, Jr., Mrs. and Miss Staley; for Marseilles, Mr. P. Dantracourt, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Mrs. Williamson, Miss Walker, Messrs. Moffatt, Chaplin, Misses Chaplin, Scott and Macaloy; for London, Miss L. Peters, Messrs. H. M. Morris, J. Foach Hillier, J. E. Williamson, F. Lloyd, J. Noble, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Williams.

Printed and published by BERTRAM AUGUSTUS HALE for the Concerned, at 1 A, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office 181, Fleet Street, E.C.